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CONFIDENTIAL.

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PART 31.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF MOROCCO.

43

July to December 1906.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of Morocco.

PART 31.

[22311] **No. 1.**

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 2.)

(No. 112.)

Sir, *Tangier, June* 19, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 82 of the 9th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith translation of a letter I have received from Sid Ben Sliman, in reply to the representation I had made, informing me that the Sultan has sent orders to all the authorities of the towns to put a stop to the sale into slavery of children born free.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Ben Sliman to Mr. Lowther.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) *June* 4, 1906.

WE have received your letter of the 9th ultimo, reporting your regret at the news that has reached you that free-born Mahommedan children are being sold at the ports as if they were slaves, and you trust that this harm will be removed. We took note of this, and brought it to the knowledge of His Shereefian Majesty, and he was very concerned thereat, and has issued his Shereefian command to all the authorities of the towns to do what is incumbent in the matter, and to pay great attention, so that no one of the corrupt people shall repeat this offence, by the power of God.

May you rest, &c.

(Signed) ABDELKRIM-BEN-SLIMAN.

[22312] **No. 2.**

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 2.)

(No. 113.)

Sir, *Tangier, June* 19, 1906.

IN my despatch No. 102 of the 11th instant, I informed you that, besides the demands put forward by the French Minister in connection with the murder of M. Charbonnier, M. Saint-René Taillandier had also insisted that Taib, son of Bu-Amama, the Pretender's ally, should, under the engagement made with the Makhzen, be handed over at once to the French Legation here.

For this purpose the French Legation dispatched one of their soldiers to Fez to take over this Algerian.

The Makhzen lost no time in complying with the demand, but, according to their practice, departed to a certain extent from the arrangement laid down by M. Saint-René. Taib, son of Bu-Amama, was dispatched from Fez without the French escort, and the French Consul, upon hearing of it, protested, but was, as usual, informed that the Makhzen had acted according to the Sultan's orders. The French soldier was immediately dispatched after Taib, son of Bu-Amama, and when he caught him up on the road, he found he was being conveyed in a most undignified fashion on a donkey, with his feet chained together. The soldier sent forward this distressing news to Tangier, and, on the protest of the French Minister, a messenger was sent by Sid Torres to meet the convoy, with orders that the chains were to be removed. Taib, son of Bu-Amama, was informed that he had to thank His Shereefian Majesty for this act of clemency, and he arrived this morning at Tangier in a position of greater freedom, and one more suited to an Algerian subject in Morocco.

He is now lodged at the French Legation awaiting dispatch to Algeria.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[22317] No. 3.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 2.)

(No. 118.)
Sir, *Tangier, June* 23, 1906.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 23 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez, reporting that the Sultan's "Dahir," embodying his assent to the General Act of the Algeciras Conference, was handed to M. Malmusi on the evening of the 18th instant.

I understand from my French colleague that for some days previous to the above-mentioned assent being given the opposition on the part of the Viziers had become very strong, and M. Malmusi was compelled to ask for an immediate audience of His Majesty and used some rather energetic language.

The "Dahir" makes no mention of any reserve whatever, but I understand that, on the same day as this document was handed in, Ben Sliman addressed a note to M. Malmusi, asking him to invite the Powers to use as much leniency as possible in the application of the reforms, and expressing the hope that, after the period of five years referred to in the General Act, the Sultan would be allowed to apply reforms in the manner which appeared to him best.

I hope in due course to be able to obtain a copy of this note.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 3.

Vice-Consul MacLeod to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 25.)
Sir, *Fez, June* 19, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Italian Minister, Commendatore Malmusi, has just stated to me, for your information, that the Sultan's Firman (in Moorish Arabic "Dahir") of assent to the General Act of the Algeciras Conference was handed to him last evening by Sid Abdelkrim-ben-Sliman, Vizier of Foreign Affairs.

I thanked M. Malmusi heartily for this information, and expressed my warmest congratulations on the success of his mission, particularly in view of the fact that during last week the reactionary party at Court had been strongly opposing him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. MACLEOD.

[21472] No. 4.

Foreign Office to British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 3, 1906.

I HAVE laid your letter of the 20th ultimo, on the subject of slave-trading in Morocco, before Secretary Sir E. Grey, who has caused a copy of it to be forwarded to His Majesty's Minister at Tangier for a report.

Sir E. Grey desires me to point out to you that His Majesty's Government are fully alive to the importance of checking the traffic in slaves in Morocco, ad that they have for some time past been in communication with Mr. Lowther with the object of putting pressure upon the Moorish Government to discontinue the practice. As a result the Italian Minister to Morocco, when recently proceeding on a special mission to Fez, was requested by his colleagues at Tangier again to bring this matter to the notice of the Sultan, and to urge upon His Highness the adoption of more rigorous measures for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ERIC BARRINGTON.

[22685] No. 5.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 4.)

(No. 24.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, July* 4, 1906.

MURDER of M. Charbonnier.

The Moorish Government have to-day made satisfactory replies to all the French demands. They have offered public apologies and paid an indemnity.

See my despatch No. 102 of the 11th ultimo.

[22852] No. 6.

Mr. Lister to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 6.)

(No. 266.)
Sir, *Paris, July* 3, 1906.

"LE MATIN" of yesterday's date publishes an account of an expedition into Morocco made by French troops in exercise of the rights of police on the Algerian frontier, with a view to pacifying a disturbed district and overawing a band who had been pillaging in the border district.

The French force, to the number of 800 men, under the command of General Lyautey converged in two columns upon Matarka, situated 93 miles from the frontier in Moroccan territory.

The force came up with the band, who appear to have belonged to the tribe of Beni Guil, and obliged them on the 27th May last to give up some stolen arms, and to rejoin the main body of the tribe, which is on friendly terms with the French authorites. No fighting took place.

"Le Matin" further states that the moral effect of the measures taken by General Lyautey was considerable, and that on the return journey of the expedition two tribes who had long been in a state of hostility to one another agreed to submit their differences to the arbitration of the French Commander.

I have the honour to inclose herein an extract from "Le Matin," giving an account of the incident.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) REGINALD LISTER.

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* Not printed.

[22875] No. 7.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 6.)

(No. 122.)

Sir, *Madrid, July 3, 1906.*

IN the course of my first official conversation this morning with Señor Perez Caballero, the new Minister of State, the latter said that one of his first objects would be to carry out the decisions of the Algeciras Conference so far as Spain was concerned. The Spanish Censor, in connection with the Morocco State Bank would now be formally appointed; the gentleman selected for this office was Señor Morales, Sub-Governor of the Bank of Spain.

Official intelligence of the acceptance of the General Act by the Sultan of Morocco, which in his case was equivalent to ratification, was expected to be received shortly by the Ministry of State. Señor Perez Caballero will then invite the Powers without delay to fix an early date for the exchange of ratifications. His Excellency had already had a conversation with the French Ambassador on the subject of the appointment of the Spanish and French police inspectors for the open ports of Morocco as settled by the Conference. This was a matter engaging his very serious attention, and he attached the greatest importance to the selection of these police officers being made with due care on both sides so that the risk of friction between the Spanish and French inspectors may be reduced to a minimum.

On all points concerning Morocco he promised to keep me accurately informed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[24007] No. 8.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 121.)

Sir, *Tangier, July 3, 1906.*

IN my despatch No. 118 of the 23rd June I stated that Ben Sliman had addressed a note to M. Malmusi, asking him to invite the Powers to use as much leniency as possible in the application of the reforms. This statement was not strictly accurate, and requires modification.

The appeal made to M. Malmusi by the Makhzen was a verbal one, and M. Malmusi replied that he was quite sure the Powers would not be exacting or unreasonable over the application of the reforms, but would always be willing to consider what the Makhzen had to say. With this assurance the Makhzen expressed themselves as satisfied. They, however, asked M. Malmusi for explanations of certain phrases and words in the text of the Arabic version of the "Acte Général," which M. Malmusi gave. The Makhzen then said that they would be glad to have those explanations in writing, merely for their guidance in future, and to have them on record. To this M. Malmusi replied that he could not give such a document without instructions from the Powers, particularly the Spanish Government, as the presiding Power at the Conference. But if the Makhzen would give him a list of the required explanations, he would forward it to the proper quarter when reporting what explanations he had given verbally. This list was handed to M. Malmusi in the form of an informal Memorandum unaddressed and unsigned.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[24008] No. 9.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 122.)

Sir, *Tangier, July 4, 1906.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 102 of the 11th June, I have the honour to report that the demands of the French Government put forward in connection with the murder of M. Charbonnier were to-day complied with by the Moorish Government.

Hadj Hamed Torres, the son of the Sultan's Commissioner, Cid Benasser Ghanam, the Pasha of Tangier, the Amin Sabonji, and a Kaid Rha, both sent from Fez in connection with this matter, all met at the French Legation, whither the Minister had summoned Rear-Admiral Campion, accompanied by six officers, the entire staff of the Legation, and six gentlemen representing the French community.

Hadj Hamed Torres expressed the great regret of the Makhzen and the Moorish officials for the incident, and gave an assurance that active search would be continued for the criminal, who, if found, would be punished by death, his accomplices likewise receiving suitable punishment. A letter from the Makhzen, drawn up in similar terms, was also handed to the Minister. The indemnity demanded, namely, 100,000 fr., was handed in. Yesterday a sum of some 5,000 dollars was paid for small claims arising out of the condition of anarchy. Both the speech of Hadj Hamed Torres and the letter of the Makhzen contained a statement to the effect that the incident had been brought about by the "condition of disorder" existing in the country. An engagement was also given to set aside a plot of ground for a memorial to Charbonnier near the spot where he was killed, but not in the Angera district, where the authorities declared they would be unable to protect it.

The French Minister replied in suitable terms to the speech of Hadj Hamed Torres, laying stress on the promise of the Makhzen to make every endeavour to discover the assassin.

Rear-Admiral Campion added a few words to the effect that, on his arrival, he had omitted to salute the town, as a cloud hung over the relations of the French and Moorish Governments, owing to this incident. As this had now been dispelled he proposed to salute the town to-morrow morning, and will leave in a few days with his vessels of war, leaving only the "Galilee."

I have the honour to inclose texts of the speeches made on this occasion, as well as the text of the official note of the Moorish Government.*

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[24587] No. 10.

Count de Bosdari to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(Translation.)

Your Excellency, *Italian Embassy, July 17, 1906.*

I HAVE been instructed by my Government to inform your Excellency that the Mission intrusted to Commendator Malmusi, the Italian Minister at Tangier, by the Powers represented at the Conference at Algeciras, has been happily accomplished. The Sultan of Morocco has declared his acceptance and ratification of the General Act of Algeciras in its entirety, and has handed to Commendator Malmusi the Imperial Rescript, dated the 18th June, 1906, a translation of which, in French, is inclosed herewith.

In accordance with the desire expressed by the Sultan, Commendator Malmusi, who returned to Tangier with the personnel of the Mission on the 9th instant, has been authorized by the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs to proceed to Madrid, in order to hand in person the original of the Rescript to the Spanish Secretary of State, in whose archives the document will be deposited, together with the other ratifications of the Act of Algeciras.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency at the same time that Commendator Malmusi has notified to the Maghzen, as had been decided, the resolution accepted by the Conference on the motion of the British Delegate with regard to the suppression of slavery in Morocco.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. DE BOSDARI.

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* Not printed.

Inclosure in No. 10.

Imperial Decree ratifying the General Act of the International Conference at Algeciras.

(Literal translation.)

Gloire à Dieu Unique: Son règne seul est éternel.

(Sceau du Sultan Abdulazis-ben-Hassan.)

PAR le présent Édit nous faisons savoir que nous avons lu ce qui a été élaboré par nos Délégués Chérifiens et les Délégués des Grandes et Hautes Puissances amies dans les séances de la Conférence réunie dans la ville d'Algésiras en l'année 1324 de l'Hégire, correspondant à l'année 1906 de l'ère Chrétienne, pour examiner les réformes (à introduire) dans cet Empire Moghrebin, basées, en premier lieu, sur trois principes, à savoir: maintien de notre souveraineté [*dans le texte:* de nos droits souverains], de l'indépendance de notre Empire susdit et de la liberté économique en fait d'œuvres publiques. Ensuite, les réformes qui, basées sur les principes susdits, ont été résumées en sept chapitres, qui sont:—

1. Déclaration relative à l'organisation de la police dans les ports de notre Empire ouverts (au commerce).
2. Règlement concernant la surveillance et la répression de la contrebande des armes dans le territoire de cet Empire.
3. Acte de concession d'une banque au nom du Gouvernement Marocain.
4. Déclaration concernant un meilleur rendement des impôts existant et la création de nouveaux revenus.
5. Règlement sur les douanes de l'Empire et la répression de la fraude et de la contrebande.
6. Règlement concernant les moyens d'exécuter les travaux publics.
7. Dispositions générales pour la ratification et l'exécution de l'Acte Général.

Chacun de ces chapitres comprend un nombre d'Articles, en tout 123 Articles.

Après avoir examiné l'Acte qui consolide les Articles susdits et qui porte la date du 12 Safar de l'année courante, correspondant au 7 Avril, 1906, et après nous être pénétrés de ce même Acte, du commencement à la fin, nous avons pris la détermination Chérifienne de l'approuver, de le ratifier, de l'accepter et de l'exécuter entièrement.

Ainsi donné par notre ordre, ordre, fort et puissant par la volonté de Dieu, le 26e jour de Rabi' II, 1324, correspondant au 18 Juin, 1906, de l'ère Chrétienne.

Pour traduction certifiée conforme,

Le Vice-Consul, Interprète de la Légation d'Italie,
(Signé) A. M. LAREDO.

Fez, le 18 *Juin*, 1906.

[25009]

No. 11.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 23.)

(No. 125.) *Tangier, July* 12, 1906.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida in regard to the sale of slaves in his district.

Having heard of the sale at Saffi of slaves who had previously been manumitted, Mr. Vice-Consul Hunot obtained the freedom of one and is endeavouring to procure the freedom of others.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[Inclosure in No. 11.

Consul Maclean to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 139.) *Dar-al-Baida, July* 8, 1906.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that no public sale of slaves in this Consular district has been brought to my notice during the June quarter.

In the "fondak" set apart for the purpose in Rabat frequent sales have occurred.

In Saffi several private sales of slaves occurred. Some of the latter had been previously manumitted, and Mr. Vice-Consul Hunot obtained the freedom of one and is using his best endeavours to obtain the freedom of others.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

[25010]

No. 12.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 23.)

(No. 126. Confidential.) *Tangier, July* 12, 1906.

Sir,

M. MALMUSI, the Italian Minister, returned here from his Mission to Fez on the 8th instant.

He has but little to add to the statements contained in my despatches No. 118 of the 23rd June and No. 121 of the 3rd instant regarding the acceptance by the Sultan of the General Act of Algeciras.

He informed me, however, that the Sultan had expressed the wish that, as he was the bearer to His Majesty on behalf of all the Powers concerned of the General Act, he should likewise convey it, as well as the Sultan's "Dahir" accepting the terms of this instrument, to Madrid.

This M. Malmusi consented to do should his Government approve.

The approval was obtained from Italy, and M. Malmusi leaves to-morrow for Madrid and will hand to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the certified translation of the General Act and the Sultan's "Dahir." He in return will receive a *procès-verbal* declaring, as is stipulated in the Act, that these documents have been deposited at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Madrid. This *procès-verbal* M. Malmusi will eventually hand to the Sultan's Commissioner here.

M. Malmusi told me that he had been rather favourably impressed by the Sultan; that His Majesty seemed fully to realize the condition of affairs existing in his country; and that his observations on the General Act were, with few exceptions, intelligent; that he was convinced that from the first His Majesty saw the necessity of giving his agreement and intended to do so, but that some of the evil counsellors by whom he is surrounded advised delay. Indeed, M. Malmusi had, at the end of his negotiations, to speak somewhat strongly to His Majesty and remind him that it was unusual for Sovereigns to break their promises once given. The desire on the part of the Viziers for delay in the application of the General Act does not seem to have been dictated by any legitimate reasons, but merely by a desire on their part to see a continuance of a system which brings them more personal profit than is likely to be realizable under the new order of things.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[25013]

No. 13.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 23.)

(No. 129.) *Tangier, July* 14, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to your despatch No. 74 of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to report that M. Malmusi, Doyen of the Diplomatic Body, has informed me that he had handed to Sid-ben-Sliman a note communicating the Declaration regarding slavery read by Sir A. Nicolson at the Algeciras Conference and adopted by the

Delegates, but that up to the present time he had not received any reply from the Moorish Government.

The case mentioned in Mr. Buxton's letter of slaves, including white women and children, being brought to Tangier in April last is evidently one of those referred to in my despatch No. 82 of the 9th May, which gave rise to my letter of the same day to the Moorish Court. As reported in my despatch No. 112 of the 19th ultimo, the Sultan has given orders to stop the sale of free-born children.

I beg leave to inclose herewith a translation of a letter I am addressing to Sid-ben-Sliman, pointing out the desirability of putting a stop to the transport of slaves to Tangier by sea and their sale here at a fondak.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Mr. Lowther to Sid-ben-Sliman.

July 14, 1906.

(After compliments.)

CONSIDERABLE comment has been recently made in England and other European countries, and an unfavourable impression created, by the reports that have been published of the transport of slaves by sea from the southern ports to Laraiche and Tangier to be forwarded to Fez or for sale here.

Your Excellency is aware that the late Sultan, Mulai Hassan, in his wisdom gave orders forbidding the public sale of slaves at all the ports. These orders were rigorously complied with for many years, but I regret to say that recently sales of slaves at the ports have considerably increased, and are conducted in such a way as to be practically public and to attract attention. Both at Rabat and at Tangier sales of slaves take place at fondaks which are public places.

I request your Excellency to be good enough to bring this matter to the knowledge of the Sultan, and I am confident that His Majesty will give orders for the strict observance of the orders on the subject issued by His Majesty's father, and will put a stop to the transport by sea of bands of slaves destined for sale.

[25422] No. 14.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 25.)

(No. 26.) *Tangier, July* 25, 1906.
(Telegraphic.) P.

ON the 11th instant the Moorish Government notified the Spanish Legation of their intention to subscribe to State Bank in accordance with the terms of Article 56 of the General Act.

[25013] No. 15.

Foreign Office to British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society.

Foreign Office, July 25, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 3rd instant, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to state, for the information of the Committee, that he has received a despatch from His Majesty's Minister at Tangier reporting that the Italian Minister to Morocco, M. Malmusi, when recently at Fez handed to Sid-ben-Sliman a note communicating the Declaration regarding slavery read by Sir A. Nicolson at the Algeciras Conference and adopted by the Delegates.

Mr. Lowther further states that the case of slave-dealing mentioned in the first paragraph of your letter of the 20th ultimo had been brought to his notice at the time, and had formed the subject of a representation to the Moorish Government, which had elicited orders from the Sultan to stop the sale of free-born children.

Mr. Lowther has now addressed a further letter to Sid-ben-Sliman requesting that the matter may again be submitted to the consideration of the Sultan with a view of

insuring that the orders issued by the late Sultan forbidding both the public sale of slaves at all ports of Morocco and the transport of slaves by sea may be strictly observed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ERIC BARRINGTON.

[25906] No. 16.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 30.)

(No. 130.) *Tangier, July* 17, 1906.

Sir,

REPORTS have been freely circulated here recently to the effect that the Moorish Government decided to cede to the German firm of Hessner, doing business in this country, their share in the capital of the future Morocco State Bank.

M. Saint-René Taillandier yesterday told me that he believed that a decision to that effect had been reached, and he had also received the information that it had been taken in consequence of a very strong representation made by Dr. Rosen to the Sultan's Government reminding them of the services rendered to them by the German Government, and intimating that any omission to seize this opportunity of showing their appreciation of that action would be looked upon with much disfavour in Germany.

M. Saint-René Taillandier expressed his surprise at Dr. Rosen's action, and said that he had contented himself with reporting it to Paris, but he did not conceive that it was a matter in which the French Legation could take any action.

But my own information on the subject is that the French "Compagnie Marocaine" have also been endeavouring to secure the management of the Makhzen's share in the State Bank, and that the Makhzen has declined both the German and the French offers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[26083] No. 17.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 30.)

(No. 27.) *Tangier, July* 30, 1906.
(Telegraphic.) P.

CAVALRY instructor to Sultan's forces.

I believe that the Sultan would object to the appointment of a French officer to succeed Major Ogilvy as cavalry instructor, but that he would agree to an English officer being appointed.

His Majesty might try and appoint a German if he saw hesitation.

The French Chargé d'Affaires agrees in this view, and I would propose, if you approve, to inform His Majesty that, should he desire it, His Majesty's Government are prepared to select an officer.

The above is confidential.

[26777] No. 18.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 7.)

(No. 134.) *Tangier, July* 25, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 130 of the 17th instant, the French Chargé d'Affaires informs me that, according to the latest advices that Legation has received from Fez, the semi-official denials given in Germany to the desire of the Germans to represent Morocco in the State Bank are not in accordance with facts. Count Saint Aulaire believes that the matter has not been decided. The Sultan had, indeed, made up his mind to give the participation to the German firm of Hessner, but the final decision was temporarily withheld on the advice of some of the Viziers.

Count Saint Aulaire told me that he was instructing his Acting Consul at Fez to intimate to the Viziers with whom he might come in contact that, if the decision to give the participation to the German firm of Hessner were maintained, it would be viewed with much disfavour in France. He was to add further that it could not be

of any advantage to the Makhzen, for it would not alter the majority, which would be favourable to France, and it was of advantage to the Makhzen to secure a friendly disposition on the part of the Bank.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[26674] No. 19.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 7.)

(No. 29.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 4, 1906.

THE French Minister having arrived yesterday, I informed him, in accordance with your telegram No. 11 of the 3rd instant, that I was instructed, at the proper time, to support the candidate his Government was putting forward for the post of cavalry instructor.

M. Regnault asked me to take no steps in the matter until I heard from him again, as some misunderstanding must have arisen, it having been arranged at the time he left Paris that, in order to avoid the risk of a German officer being appointed by the Sultan, an English officer should be put forward for the post.

[27101] No. 20.

Count de Bosdari to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 8.)

(Translation.)
M. le Ministre, *London, August* 3, 1906.

IN continuation of my communication, dated the 17th July last, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that on the 16th of that month Commendator Malmusi, Italian Minister at Tangier, handed to the Foreign Minister of His Catholic Majesty at Madrid the Rescript in which His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco gives his adhesion to the Final Act of the Algeciras Conference.

A verbal statement recording this act has been drawn up in duplicate, one copy being destined for His Shereefian Majesty and the other for the Italian Ministry for (? Foreign) Affairs.

I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency herewith a copy of this statement.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. DE BOSDARI.

Inclosure in No. 20.

Statement recording Adhesion of Sultan of Morocco to Final Act of Algeciras Conference.

LE Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté Catholique, certifie:—

Qu'en cette date son Excellence M. Giulio Malmusi, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté le Roi d'Italie au Maroc, conformément aux instructions par lui reçues de Sa Majesté Chériffienne et dûment autorisé à cet effet par le Gouvernement Royal Italien, m'a remis en propres mains le Rescript Chériffien par lequel Sa Majesté le Sultan du Maroc adhère à l'Acte Final de la Conférence d'Algésiras, signé le 7 Avril, 1906, et que le dit Rescript par moi reçu est consigné aux archives de ce Ministère.

Fait en double expédition à Madrid, le 16 Juillet, 1906.
(Signé) PIO GULLON.

L'Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire
de Sa Majesté le Roi d'Italie,
G. MALMUSI.

[27522] No. 21.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 13.)

(No. 139.) *Tangier, August* 2, 1906.

Sir,

IN a despatch dated the 23rd ultimo Mr. Vice-Consul Macleod reported that letters had reached Fez from Tafilet stating that an important expedition had started from that oasis under the Viceroy Mulai Rachid, uncle of the Sultan, to attack a French force which had penetrated to Tauz, a place about 40 miles south-east of Tafilet; and in a subsequent despatch, copy of which I have the honour to transmit herewith, he reports that further news had reached Fez to the effect that a fight had taken place with considerable losses on both sides, and that the inhabitants of the Tafilet district had been forbidden to have any intercourse with the French.

The French Chargé d'Affaires informs me that he has had no news of this incident, the importance of which must therefore have been greatly exaggerated. He added that considerable trouble is being caused by the tribes of the Tafilet district, who boycott all persons having dealings with the French and pillage their property. The fractions of the Doui Menia tribe who have accepted French rule are thus great sufferers, as many of them have property in Tafilet, and they look to the French for justice, but the claims presented to the Moorish Government on their behalf are left unsettled.

The French forces have to make raids into Moorish territory to recover property pillaged, and in June they had thus penetrated as far as a place called Metarka, near Tafilet. This is doubtless the expedition referred to in Mr. Macleod's despatch; but after recovering the stolen camels the expedition returned, and no serious fighting had as yet been reported.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 21.

Vice-Consul Macleod to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 34.) *Fez, July* 26, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 32 of the 23rd instant, I have the honour to state that in addition to the information therein I have now received the following particulars from another Fez Marabout, Hadj Taleb Lazarac, who also trades with Tafilet. Hadj Taleb Lazarac informs me he has verified his own information by questioning a courier, who reached Fez on the 22nd instant from Tafilet with letters for the Viziers. Hadj Taleb Lazarac's information is as follows:—

A fight occurred about the 10th June between the French and a party of Moorish tribesmen at some spot between Figuig and Igli. The tribesmen were beaten, but the French retired to their own quarters. (This seems like an unsuccessful raid on a French convoy.) The French then sent for the leading tribesmen of Douimenia and ordered them to prepare to assist in attacking the tribes round Tafilet.

The Douimenia answered that they could not do so without the consent of Mulai Ershid, the Sultan's Representative at Tafilet, and five months' time was allowed to them for that purpose. On hearing of this, the tribes to the south-east of Tafilet, namely, Ahl Sefalat, Ahl Wad Ifli, Ahl Wad Gorfa, and Beni Mohamed, in alarm, took counsel together, and each tribe appointed a Sheikh over itself. The four Sheikhs were, by lot as to rotation, and in turn, each to be Generalissimo over the others for periods of three months each. The lot fell to the Sheikh of Gorfa to command them all for the first three months.

Hearing of all this, the French attacked the Ahl Tauz, and carried off their children and camels to a spot about midway between Igli and Ahl Tauz. There the French began to build houses (or huts) and to secure themselves generally.

The Ahl Tauz then appealed to the Tafilet tribes above named for help, and, just lately, all of them sent a large force against the French. The Ahl Selafat portion alone of that force is said to have numbered about 4,000.

On learning of this the French, without fighting, retired to Wad Gir (to a spot probably some 20 miles or so west or north-west of Igli), leaving behind part of their belongings—mostly building materials—too heavy to carry away quickly. These were

seized by the first parties of the Moorish tribes who reached that spot. The next Moorish parties followed the French, attacked and defeated them severely, and recovered all the children (except one, whose fate is as yet unknown) and all the camels previously captured from the Ahl Tauz.

The Moorish tribes admit losing seventy men killed in this engagement, but allege that the French lost a still larger number than that.

Orders were then sent all over Tafilet district forbidding all intercourse with the French, and letters were sent to the Sultan at Fez appealing for assistance against the French, and saying that should such assistance be refused these tribes will by themselves continue to fight the French.

These were all the particulars Hadj Taleb Lazarac had learned.

It will be observed that no mention is made as to whether or not the Sultan's Representative, Mulai Ershid, took part in the hostilities. The fight, however, must have occurred on or about the 10th instant, that is to say, a few days subsequent to the mustering of tribes under Mulai Ershid, reported in my despatch No. 32 of the 23rd instant, so, unless evidence to the contrary be received, presumably Mulai Ershid took part in the affair.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. MACLEOD.

[27524] No. 22.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 13.)

(No. 141.)

Sir, *Tangier, August* 4, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Moorish Government have recalled the Basha of Tangier, and are appointing as his successor Kaïd Caddor Belghazi, the Basha of Tetuan, who went as Special Envoy to Madrid for the Royal wedding. Kaïd Belghazi will retain the government of Tetuan, where he will be represented by a Deputy-Governor.

Kaïd Belghazi has the reputation of being fanatical and ill-disposed towards foreigners; his appointment is not, however, unfavourably received, as he showed himself at Tetuan to be a strong man, and kept the turbulent tribes in that district in subjection; it is doubtless on that account that the Sultan is sending him to Tangier.

It is believed to be the intention of the Government to break the power of Raisuli and effect his capture, if possible. The ex-bandit appears to be alive to the danger, and not at all disposed to submit without a struggle. He has lately visited the mountain tribes near his home to arrange, as is believed, a safe retreat in case of necessity. Should his fears be confirmed, he will doubtless endeavour to repeat his former tactics, which proved so successful, and make a great effort to capture some European.

In the meantime he has replied to the Sultan's orders (see Mr. Lowther's despatch No. 135 of the 25th ultimo) depriving him of the authority to grant permits for the sale of real property, which had hitherto been a source of considerable gain to him, by announcing his intention of arresting any notaries or other officials going out to draw up deeds of sale. The authorities have therefore been obliged to dispense with the measuring of lands when sold, which had hitherto been insisted on, as the official measurers and notaries dare not go to any properties outside the town walls for that purpose.

It is not only in this neighbourhood that the authority of the Government is non-existent, in other districts it is the same. I may mention, as an example, a recent incident reported by the Consular Agent at Alcazar. The Governor of that town had arrested two Chiefs of the neighbouring mountain tribe, Ahl Serif, who were rebels. The men of that tribe, however, came down in considerable numbers and insisted on the immediate release of the prisoners. The Governor, fearing to offer resistance, set the men at liberty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[28091] No. 23.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 17.)

(No. 30.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 17, 1906.

IN my despatch No. 141 of the 4th instant, I reported the appointment of Kaïd Caddor Belghazi to be Governor of Tangier.

Belghazi arrived this morning accompanied by some troops.

In the afternoon there was a fight in the market-place between a number of Angera tribesmen and Raisuli's followers. The former fled with the Governor and his troops in pursuit.

Although there was a brisk fusillade in the crowded market, the casualties were only about eight killed and a few wounded. There were also some prisoners taken.

[28580] No. 24.

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 21.)

(No. 81.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *San Sebastian, August* 20, 1906.

THE Italian Minister at Tangier has received from the Maghzen a communication containing the latter's interpretation of certain Articles of the Algeciras Act. This document has been forwarded by Signor Mulmusi to the Spanish Minister of State, who to-day read it to the French Ambassador and myself. Señor Gullon will send me a copy of the text in due course, as also to the Representatives of all the other Signatory Powers. In view, however, of the mutual position of France and England on this question, his Excellency desired that M. Cambon and I should be the first to learn its contents. The Spanish Government have, as yet, formed no opinion upon the Maghzen's communication, which is, so far as I can remember, to the following effect:—

With regard to Article 3, the Moorish Government wish to have the right to transfer the military instructors from one port to another. Spain and France having no special privilege in this respect.

Article 4. The instructors to be European nationals, not naturalized. Words of command to be given in Arabic. On the expiration of the five years, the instructors to be replaced by Moorish officers.

Article 9. The Inspector-General to limit the scope of his inquiry to complaints relating to the question of police.

Article 18. Licences for the use of sporting or high-priced arms in the interior to be granted to Moorish subjects only.

Article 35. Interest to be payable only on sums actually drawn up to two-thirds of the initial capital.

Article 67. The Maghzen regret to be unable to assent to a reduction of the export duty on cereals.

Article 97. The Customs Committee to be dissolved at the end of three years, after having reorganized the Customs Administration.

[28612] No. 25.

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 22.)

(No. 82.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *San Sebastian, August* 21, 1906.

WITH reference to my immediately preceding telegram of yesterday's date, relative to the Sultan of Morocco's interpretation of the Algeciras Act, I have to report that both the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs and the French Ambassador are inclined to believe the Maghzen's action to be inspired from Berlin. The former is of the opinion that the Sultan's request ought not to form the subject of fresh discussion between the Cabinets, but that it should be considered by the Diplomatic Body at Tangier, to be borne in mind when the Act is put into operation.

M. Cambon does not conceal his sense of the gravity of the Maghzen's action.

I learn that Signor Malmusi's letter to the Spanish Ministry of State was dated the 5th instant, while the *note verbale* from the Grand Vizier, therein inclosed, was handed to him two days before his departure from Fez and nine days after the Sultan had accepted and ratified in its integrity the Act of Algeciras. It was therefore known to the Italian Minister to Morocco when he handed the Sultan's adhesion to Señor Gullon last month; and it has been in the hands of the Spanish Government for the past fortnight.

[28681] No. 26.

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 22.)

(No. 83.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *San Sebastian, August* 22, 1906.

ALGECIRAS Act.

In the passage of the Grand Vizier's *note verbale* relating to Article 4, the term "naturalized" is understood to refer to "protected persons."

The paragraph dealing with Article 35, which illustrates the simplicity of the Moorish mind, is believed by the Spaniards and French here to have been designedly inserted by the German inspirers, with the object of giving to the document a spurious air of spontaneity.

The Sultan's interpretation of Article 18 refers not to the use of arms, as stated in my telegram No. 81, but to trade in arms.

[28800] No. 27.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 23.)

(No. 31.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 23, 1906.

I AM informed that the Moorish Government are making efforts in various quarters to raise a loan.

Applications have been made to several firms, both British and foreign. I understand that the Algiers and Morocco Company have been asked to lend 2,000,000 fr., and Mr. Pariente 500,000*l*. The agent of the former stated to the British Vice-Consul at Fez that he has made an offer, for which he has only asked as security the Moorish Government's share of profits on the coal hulks (see my despatch No. 137 of the 31st ultimo), and an engagement that for telegraph and various other concessions a preference is to be given to his Company.

I believe that Mr. Pariente is consulting Messrs. Mendelssohn.

His Majesty's Legation have received no applications on the subject.

[28801] No. 28.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 23.)

(No. 32.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 23, 1906.

MY telegram No. 31 of to-day's date.

I am informed by the French Minister that a French firm here has received an application from the Moorish Government for a loan, but that, as it would be contrary to the Algeciras Act, the application has been discouraged by the French Government.

Until such time as the State Bank is established, the Consortium of French Banks who made the previous loan claim preferential treatment. They would subsequently transfer the loan to the State Bank.

The Consortium on learning from Mendelssohn's, with whom they had been in communication, that they recognized their claim and were willing to co-operate, proceeded to consult the French Government on the subject.

[28902] No. 29.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 24.)

(No. 34.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 24, 1906.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 32 of yesterday, I have the honour to report that Kaïd Sir H. Maclean has forwarded to me privately under flying seal a letter to Messrs. Coutts, inquiring whether they are prepared to make a loan of 500,000*l*. to the Sultan.

The terms proposed are the same as those for the German loan last autumn, and the Government lands at ports not hypothecated to Germans are offered as security.

In the event of His Majesty's Government not wishing loan to be taken up in England, Sir H. Maclean asks to be so informed.

I await your instructions before forwarding letter to Messrs. Coutts.

[28991] No. 30.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 25.)

(No. 35.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 25, 1906.

SULTAN'S interpretation of certain Articles of the General Act of Algeciras.

I have had some conversation with the French Minister on this subject.

M. Regnault considers that there is already much work to be done by the Diplmatic Body here under the Algeciras Act, and he strongly objects to the discussion by that body of the points raised by the Moorish Government, as an opportunity would thus be afforded to other Governments to put forward other points, and the whole question would be practically reopened.

M. Regnault has no objection to the Moorish interpretation of Article 4 relative to the giving of words of command in Arabic and to the inspectors not being naturalized persons, provided that the exclusion of Algerians is not thereby intended.

He has also no objection to the interpretation of Articles 9, 35, and 67, but the rest of the Sultan's interpretations he considers unacceptable.

M. Regnault read to me a telegram he was addressing to his Government in regard to the matter.

I told M. Regnault that personally I concurred in the views he expressed.

I took the opportunity of saying that, in my opinion, a reply should be made to the *note verbale*. M. Regnault replied that this was also his opinion.

[28992] No. 31.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 25.)

(No. 36.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 25, 1906.

I AM informed by the German Chargé d'Affaires that the German Minister will proceed next month on a mission to Fez, with the sole object of presenting his credentials.

Dr. Rosen is returning from Germany shortly.

[28902] No. 32.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. White.

(No. 16.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, August* 26, 1906.

I HAVE received your telegram No. 34 of the 24th instant, and request that you will inform Sir H. MacLean that, in view of the attitude towards the loan question which has, according to your telegram No. 32 of the 23rd instant, been assumed by the French Government, His Majesty's Government cannot possibly give their countenance to the raising of a separate loan in this country.

[29267] No. 33.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 28.)

(No. 146.)

Sir, *Tangier, August* 15, 1906.

WITH reference to Mr. Lowther's despatch No. 304 of the 23rd December, 1905, I have the honour to report that I have received a letter from Ben Sliman, informing me that Buafee-ben-Mohammed, one of the two men sentenced to imprisonment for life for the murder of Mr. Madden at Mogador, has died in prison at Marakesh.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[29268] No. 34.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 28.)

(No. 147.)

Sir, *Tangier, August* 17, 1906.

KAÏD CADDOR-BEL-GHAZI, who, as reported in my despatch No. 141 of the 4th instant, has been appointed Basha of Tangier, arrived yesterday morning, and was received with the usual ceremony, the Shereefian letter, which was as usual read at the Great Mosque under a salute of twenty-one guns, informed the people of Tangier that Kaïd-bel-Ghazi had been appointed Governor of the town. The district outside the town walls thus remains under the jurisdiction of Raisuli.

The new Basha was accompanied by a force of 500 infantry and a few cavalry.

Kaïd-bel-Ghazi was the bearer of a Shereefian letter to the Anjera tribe, appointing one of their principal men as Governor of that tribe in succession to Duas, who was murdered about two months since, as reported in Mr. Lowther's despatch No. 110 of the 17th June. Sid Torres had accordingly invited the Notables of the Anjera tribe to come in and receive the Royal letter. A number of the Notables therefore arrived yesterday, accompanied by a considerable force of tribesmen, amongst whom were a band of some thirty or forty of the Schott family and their partisans on the look out for an opportunity to avenge the assassination of their relations in April last by order of Raisuli's Deputy, as was reported by Mr. Lowther in his despatch No. 71 of the 20th April. These men were sitting down near the market place on the watch, when one of those who had killed the Schotts happened to pass, and was immediately shot by them. The matter being reported to Raisuli's Deputy, whose head-quarters are in the market place, he immediately came out with his followers to avenge the death of his man, and gave orders that any member of the Anjera tribe who could be found was to be shot. The cafés were searched, and two unfortunate men, who had done no harm, were shot. In the meantime the Anjera tribesmen fled or went into hiding.

The Basha, hearing of the disturbance, immediately ordered out the troops and rode out into the market place, and then in pursuit of the Anjera tribesmen, who, however, had obtained a good start of their pursuers, most of whom were on foot, the few mounted men being kept in check by the volleys fired by the Anjera men.

There was naturally great excitement and panic in the town, as the firing was very brisk at times, several hundreds of shots being fired. Happily, though the market place was crowded, there were, so far as I can learn, only two accidents, a woman and a boy being wounded. It is difficult to ascertain accurately the numbers of dead and wounded amongst the contending parties, but there appear to have been only about six killed and a few wounded—of the former four were shot at a few paces distance when not resisting, so the shooting must have been very bad when the large number of shots fired is taken into consideration.

There are also about eighteen Anjera men here in prison, most, if not all, of whom are quite innocent of having taken any part in the proceedings.

The people are greatly impressed by the energy shown by the new Basha, who though only just arrived from his long journey, and a stranger to the place, at once went out at the head of his troops. Raisuli's partisans are also to some extent tranquillized by the fact that the new Basha's jurisdiction is confined to the town, and that he espoused their cause against the Anjera.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[29269] No. 35.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 28.)

(No. 148. Confidential.)

Sir, *Tangier, August* 18, 1906.

WITH reference to Mr. Lowther's despatch No. 134 of the 25th ultimo, regarding the alleged intention of the Sultan to intrust the Moorish share in the State Bank to the German firm of Haessner, I have the honour to report that I learn privately from Kaïd Sir H. Maclean that the Sultan, in speaking to him of the subject, complained that he finds it difficult to maintain satisfactory relations with the French. His Majesty protested that he earnestly desired to be on the most friendly terms with them, and had given proof of this in many ways, as, for instance, in intrusting to them the construction of the harbour works at two important ports notwithstanding German opposition, and yet, because His Majesty had nominated a German to assist the Moorish officials in the Bank, the French had cut off the supplies from his forces at Oujdah. His Majesty observed that his Viziers and the people generally were afraid of the French, whose action encouraged the belief that they still desired to take this country, and added that, whilst desirous of cultivating good relations with them, he was determined not to put everything into their hands.

Sir H. Maclean pointed out to the Sultan that the integrity and independence of Morocco were secured by recent agreements, and that it was undoubtedly His Majesty's best policy to do his utmost to gain the friendship and good-will of France.

Count Saint Aulaire informs me that the transmission of provisions to Oujdah across the Algerian frontier was merely intended to bring pressure to bear on the Moorish Governor of that place to cause him to settle various claims on the Moorish Government put forward by the Algerian authorities, which he had hitherto entirely neglected to attend to, and that it was quite unconnected with the question of the State Bank. He added that the prohibition had now been removed, as the Algerian authorities had adopted other measures—viz., the seizure of certain goods destined for the Moorish authorities in transit through Algeria.

It is not, however, perhaps altogether unnatural that the Sultan should have attributed this to a desire of the French Government to bring pressure to bear on His Majesty on the question of the State Bank, for I understand from His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez that the Acting French Consul at that place had been instructed, when protesting against the introduction of foreigners or foreign capital into the Moorish Government's share of the State Bank, to point out that France and her friends would in any case form a majority on the directorate, and would be in a position to outvote a Mauro-German coalition, and further to remind the Moorish Government that, if they proved obdurate, France could make herself very disagreeable on the frontier.

The language used by the Sultan to Kaïd Sir H. Maclean would seem to indicate that His Majesty has already come to a definite arrangement with Messrs. Haessner, by which that firm would be associated with the Moorish officials in the Bank. On the other hand, Count Saint Aulaire informs me that, according to the latest information which has reached the French Legation, His Majesty, whilst desirous of employing Messrs. Haessner, has not yet come to any definite decision in the matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[29271] No. 36.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received August* 28.)

(No. 150.)

Sir, *Tangier, August* 18, 1906.

SEVERAL incidents have lately occurred, which show that there is an urgent need of active steps being promptly taken by the Moorish authorities for the security of the public at Tangier.

In addition to the fusileades in the market-place, reported in my despatch No. 147 of the 17th instant, when happily Christians and Jews escaped with nothing worse than a fright, a more serious incident so far as the safety of Europeans is concerned, occurred on the same day, a Spanish lad, aged about fifteen or sixteen, having been found dead on the beach about a mile out from the town.

A post-mortem examination has shown that death was caused by two heavy blows on the head, inflicted probably with a thick stick or the barrel of a rifle. There is absolutely no clue to the mystery; there can, however, I think, be little doubt that the boy was murdered, though not for robbery, as he belonged to the poorest class. The Spanish authorities are somewhat embarrassed, fearing that the incident may be taken up strongly in the press, and a demand be made that the precedent of the Charbonnier case be followed, whereas in the circumstances it would be difficult to obtain satisfaction of that nature from the Moorish Government.

A few days before, a boat from the French cruiser "Galilée" was obtaining water from a well on the beach quite close to the town, when a shot was suddenly fired from some spot near by, though it was not seen from where, and the bullet struck the water close to the boat. The investigations made to discover the person who fired the shot have hitherto proved fruitless.

The French Postmaster has also been fired at, but in this case there was a misunderstanding. The Postmaster, accompanied by a Moorish guard, had proceeded in the evening to repair the shore end of the telegraph cable at about 3 miles from the town, when a shot was fired at the party. It proved, however, to have been fired by an over zealous guard, who had taken the party for smugglers.

Shortly after the firing in the market-place, Count Saint Aulaire came to see me in the name of the French Minister, who is still ill, to speak of the advisability of making a representation to Sid Torres urging the prompt adoption of measures to prevent the possibility of the recurrence of such incidents by which the lives of Europeans may be endangered. We considered that it would be desirable that the Doyen should make a representation on behalf of the Diplomatic Body.

I have already taken an opportunity of speaking on the subject to the American Minister, who is Doyen for the time being, and he proposes to consult his colleagues on the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[29685] No. 37.

Annex to Despatch of Italian Minister at Tangier to the Minister of State, dated August 5, 1906.—(*Communicated by the Spanish Ambassador, August* 31, 1906.)

Article 3 *de l'Acte d'Algésiras.*—Le Makhzen demande s'il pourra, ainsi qu'il le désire, substituer ou transférer d'un port à l'autre les instructeurs militaires. Il interprète les dispositions de cet Article dans le sens que la France et l'Espagne n'auront pas d'autres privilèges en plus des autres Puissances.

Article 4.—Le Makhzen désire que, pratiquement, cet Article soit appliqué de manière à ce que les instructeurs soient des Européens, non pas des naturalisés, ayant connaissance de la langue Arabe; que les commandements soient faits en langue Arabe pour la meilleure exécution des exercices militaires de la part des soldats indigènes.

Dans sa pensée, à l'expiration des cinq années, les officiers instructeurs rentreront dans leurs pays, dûment recompensés; ils pourront être substitués par des officiers du Makhzen.

Article 9.—Le Makhzen, suivant les dispositions de cet Article, entend que la nature des réclamations pour lesquelles l'Inspecteur-Général devra faire une enquête sera spécifiée dans le sens qu'il s'agît de réclamations concernant exclusivement la police.

Article 18.—Le Makhzen a compris et s'attend à ce qu'il soit déclaré que la permission d'exercer le commerce des armes de chasse et de luxe dans l'intérieur de l'Empire soit réservée aux sujets Marocains.

Article 35.—Étant de notoriété publique que les intérêts se payent sur les sommes effectivement prélevées, le Makhzen désire qu'il soit clairement établi en Arabe que les intérêts ne seront payés que sur les sommes effectivement retirées de la Banque jusqu'à concurrence des deux tiers du capital initial de la Banque même.

Article 67.—La Conférence ayant émis le vœu que les droits d'exportation sur les céréales y contemplées soient réduits, le Makhzen répond qu'il aurait voulu pouvoir adhérer à ce vœu; mais que diverses causes et circonstances s'y opposent; que le maintien des droits actuels est une nécessité qui s'impose au Maroc.

Article 97.—Le but du Comité Permanent, dit "Comité des Douanes," consistant à exercer une constante surveillance jusqu'à ce que les services des Douanes soient régulièrement organisés, le Makhzen désirerait qu'il fût mieux et plus clairement spécifié en Arabe que, cette organisation accomplie (dans les trois années indiquées), le Comité susdit cessera d'exister. Dans le cas où le Comité n'aurait pas conduit à fin son mandat à l'expiration des trois années, le Makhzen proposerait un nouveau terme suffisant à la parfaite réorganisation des services douaniers en question.

[29606] No. 38.

Memorandum communicated by M. Geoffray, August 31, 1906.

ARTICLE III.	*Observations.*
LE Sultan voudrait qu'on lui accordât le droit de substituer ou de transférer les instructeurs d'un port à un autre. Son interprétation de l'Article est que l'Espagne et la France n'auront pas d'autorité supérieure à celle des autres Puissances.	EN acceptant que le Sultan puisse déplacer les instructeurs, on annihilerait leur action et on créerait des conflits incessants avec le Maghzen. Même en ce qui concerne les missions militaires de Fez, qui sont pourtant à son entière disposition et sur lesquelles il exerce, sans réglementation précise, une action directe, le Sultan n'a jamais émis pareille prétention. Les pouvoirs des inspecteurs ont une origine internationale, et nous devons nous exposer énergiquement à la concession que suggère M. Gullon (faculté pour le Maghzen de déplacer certains instructeurs en cas d'urgence, sans toutefois l'autoriser à modifier les règlements de police que doivent élaborer la France et l'Espagne). M. Regnault pense qu'en ce qui concerne l'interprétation donnée à cet Article, en vue d'établir que la France et l'Espagne n'auront pas d'autorité supérieure à celle des autres Puissances, il faut en chercher l'origine dans un des derniers projets élaborés à Algésiras par les Autrichiens. M. de Welsersheimb avait essayé d'abord de faire spécifier que le fait pour l'Espagne et la France de nommer les instructeurs devait éviter de porter atteinte à la souveraineté du Sultan et au principe de la porte ouverte garanti par les Puissances. Une autre proposition se bornait à établir que ce fait ne saurait conférer à l'un des deux pays des droits supérieurs à celui des autres Puissances dans les villes où seraient installés les instructeurs. M. Révoil ayant vivement relevé ces propositions comme offensantes, elles ne furent même pas discutées à la Conférence. Ce serait les faire renaître à Tanger que de transmettre la note Marocaine au Corps Diplomatique de cette ville.
ARTICLE IV.	
Le Maghzen voudrait que les instructeurs soient des Européens ayant la connaissance de la langue Arabe, et non des	Si le Maghzen entend par là que nous n'emploierons pas comme instructeurs des "Marocains naturalisés Français," il sera

naturalisés. Les ordres seraient donnés en Arabe. Au bout de cinq ans des officiers Marocains remplaceraient les instructeurs étrangers.

aisé de lui donner satisfaction ; s'il entend, au contraire, exclure les "Algériens naturalisés ou non," cette prétention irait contre les déclarations que nous avons faites à Algésiras, où nous avons toujours appuyé nos droits à la police sur les aptitudes des cadres Musulmans que nous fournirait l'Algérie. Dans notre pensée les emplois subalternes d'instructeurs doivent être offerts à des Algériens.

ARTICLE IX.

L'Inspecteur-Général ne pourra enquêter qu'à la suite de réclamations concernant des questions de police.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Le commerce des armes de chasse et de luxe dans l'intérieur du Maroc serait réservé aux Marocains.

L'Acte d'Algésiras n'autorise le commerce des armes de luxe et de chasse qu'à Tanger et en outre dans une zone qui reste à fixer par le Maghzen d'accord avec le Corps Diplomatique. La Conférence n'ayant pas admis que l'autorisation de vendre des armes à l'intérieur puisse être accordée, la question posée par le Maghzen est donc sans intérêt pratique. En outre, la solution qu'il préconise serait contraire à la liberté de commerce reconnue aux étrangers par les Traités et la Conférence.

ARTICLE XXXV.

Il devra être expliqué clairement et en Arabe que les intérêts ne devront être payés par le Sultan que pour la somme effective retirée par lui de la banque jusqu'à concurrence des deux tiers du capital initial.

Il va de soi que le Maghzen ne payera d'intérêts que pour les sommes effectivement prêtées. Le règlement à venir sur les rapports de la banque avec l'État Marocain lui donnera sur ce point entière satisfaction.

ARTICLE LXVII.

La Conférence avait émis le vœu que les droits sur les céréales fussent réduits. Le Maghzen a répondu qu'à son grand regret diverses raisons s'opposaient à cette mesure.

ARTICLE XCVII.

Le Maghzen voudrait que le Comité des Douanes fût supprimé au bout de trois ans ; s'il n'avait pas alors terminé son œuvre, le Maghzen proposerait alors un nouveau terme suffisant pour la réorganisation du service douanier.

La Conférence a proposé une durée de trois ans comme limite aux pouvoirs des membres du Comité Permanent des Douanes. Mais elle n'entendait pas mettre fin à une institution qui devra subsister tant que les Douanes ne fonctionneront pas régulièrement.

[29610] No. 39.

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 1.)

(No. 85.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *San Sebastian, August* 31, 1906.

M. JULES CAMBON has reported to me a conversation which he had yesterday with the Spanish Minister of State, on the subject of the Sultan of Morocco's interpretations of the Algeciras Act, reported in my telegram No. 81. His Excellency informed Señor Gullon that France rejects these demands in their entirety, and that he was confident that a similar reply would be returned by England.

M. Cambon tells me that, in the opinion of his Government, an unreserved rejection even of the less inadmissible demands is essential, as any qualification would afford a pretext for further upsetting the work of the Conference. He lays great stress on the desirability that France and England should return an identical reply to the official communication of Signor Malmusi's note, and maintain an attitude of solidarity.

At the interview above mentioned the Spanish Minister of State told the French Ambassador that he had as yet received no intimation of the views of His Majesty's Government. A Red Book on Morocco was in course of preparation, and a Commission was to be appointed for this purpose which would also deal with communications received from the Signatory Powers relative to the execution of the Algeciras Protocol.

M. Cambon, who sees in the appointment of this Commission an attempt by Spain to take an independent Germanophile action in Morocco, reminded Señor Gullon that Spain is bound by Treaty to pursue a policy identical with that of France and England in regard to that question.

[29697] No. 40.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 2.)

(No. 37.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, September* 2, 1906.

QUESTION of appointment of British officer as cavalry instructor to Moorish army.

My telegram No. 33 of the 23rd ultimo.

I have heard from Kaïd Maclean that the Sultan has told him he will consider the matter. His Majesty has asked for the ages of all the applicants, and wishes to see their photographs.

I have requested Maclean to suggest to the Sultan that, instead of selecting an officer by photographs, it would be better to leave the choice to His Majesty's Government.

[29698] [No. 41.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 2.)

(No. 38.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, September* 2, 1906.

SULTAN'S interpretation of General Act of Algeciras Conference.

I am informed by the French Minister, who had not heard of the interview between the French Ambassador at Madrid and the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, that he has spoken to the Spanish Minister in regard to the above.

M. Regnault suggested that the Spanish Government should reply to the Moorish Government that it is not within their province to discuss the interpretation of the Act, as they are merely charged with carrying out the exchange of the ratifications.

M. Llaveria said he would put this suggestion, with which he entirely agreed, before his Government.

No. 42.

[29693]

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 2.)

(No. 86.) *San Sebastian, September* 2, 1906.

(Telegraphic.) P.

MOORISH interpretation of Algeciras Act.

The French Chargé d'Affaires, in the absence of M. Jules Cambon, who has gone to Paris on a short leave of absence, will endeavour to expedite the transmission to the Signatory States of the text of the Circular which, in his opinion, is being unduly delayed.

The French Ambassador in London has been instructed to concert with you beforehand the terms of the reply to be returned to the official communication by the Spanish Ambassador of the text aforesaid.

No. 43.

[29852]

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 3.)

(No. 153.) *Tangier, August* 25, 1906.

Sir,

THE Sultan is apparently anxious to create an effective body of troops at Tangier with a view to maintaining order in this district up to the time of the formation of the police force provided for in the General Act of Algeciras, and also to having a suitable body of men already trained to some extent and fit to be at once enrolled in the police force when formed.

The French Minister has been good enough to communicate to me a set of Regulations drawn up for this purpose at the Court and now being put into force.

These Regulations provide for the maintenance at Tangier of two regiments of infantry, each consisting of 600 men, in addition to the existing force of artillery. The men composing these two regiments are to be carefully selected both as regards character and health, having to undergo medical examination by the French doctor. Provisions are made for the prevention of desertion and substitution, so common in the Moorish army.

The rate of pay established is on a reasonable scale, ranging from 1*s.* per diem for a private to 20*s.* for a Colonel, precautions being adopted to insure the men obtaining their pay regularly.

The French military instructors are given a fairly effective control, and, on the whole, the Regulations must be considered as satisfactory, and showing an honest desire on the part of the Sultan to restore order in this district.

A brother of Sid-ben-Sliman has arrived from Fez to have supreme control of military matters here as Delegate of the Minister of War.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

No. 44.

[29854]

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 3.)

(No. 155.) *Tangier, August* 25, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to Mr. Lowther's despatch No. 106 of the 14th June, inclosing copy of a letter that had been addressed in the name of the Diplomatic Body at Tangier to their doyen, the Italian Minister, M. Malmusi, then at Fez, requesting him to bring to the notice of the Sultan the Declaration in regard to slavery read by Sir A. Nicolson at the Algeciras Conference and adopted by all the Delegates, I have the honour to transmit herewith translation of a letter addressed by Sid-ben-Sliman to M. Malmusi, communicating the reply of the Sultan on the subject, to the effect that slavery is a matter of religion which cannot be discussed.

M. Malmusi addressed a Circular letter to the foreign Representatives, communicating to them the reply of the Sultan. The German Chargé d'Affaires, who was the first to receive the Circular, came to see me on the subject, and stated that the terms of the letter were so unsatisfactory that he feared that if they were made public a very unfavourable impression would be produced which would be detrimental to the

interests of this country, whereas it was much to be desired that affairs should now run smoothly and quietly here, and that all should work loyally together to give effect to the provisions of the Algeciras Act.

He was of opinion, therefore, that the doyen should address a further letter to Sid-ben-Sliman on the subject with a view to eliciting a more favourable reply, which could be published without danger of exciting too strong a feeling in England and other countries where the slavery question attracts much attention, and that, in the meantime, it would be advisable not to communicate the present reply of the Sultan to our respective Governments.

I told Baron Langwerth that I was in complete agreement with him as to the desirability of all the Legations here working loyally together for the introduction of the reforms contemplated in the Algeciras Act, and that I also concurred in his opinion that the Sultan's reply was most unsatisfactory and could not be accepted as final, and that the doyen should address a further letter to Sid-ben-Sliman on the subject in the name of the Diplomatic Body, but that I could not take upon myself the responsibility of withholding from His Majesty's Government the letter addressed by Sid-ben-Sliman to M. Malmusi, which I should forward to you, stating at the same time what action the Representatives might decide to take upon it.

The German Chargé d'Affaires accordingly made a Minute on the Circular to the effect that, as the letter of Sid-ben-Sliman appeared to him to be in no sense a reply to the Resolution unanimously accepted by the Delegates, he proposed that the doyen should address a letter to the Moorish Government drawing their attention to the true meaning of the Resolution, which did not suggest that the Sultan should contravene the religious laws of the Koran, and requesting a further and more suitable reply.

This proposition was unanimously adopted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 44.

Sid-ben-Sliman to M. Malmusi.

(Traduction.)

(Compliments d'usage.)

NOUS avons reçu votre lettre ayant trait à ce qui a été dit par le Représentant de la Grande-Bretagne à la Conférence relativement à la vente des esclaves dans cet heureux Empire, et nous avons pris connaissance de ce que vous avez signalé à ce sujet.

Nous avons informé Sa Majesté Chérifienne [du contenu de votre lettre], et notre Seigneur—que Dieu l'exalte!—nous a ordonné de vous répondre que la question de l'esclavage, comme vous ne l'ignorez pas, est une affaire religieuse sur laquelle ont leur base des lois importantes fondées sur les préceptes de jurisprudence Musulmane établis dans le cœur de l'Islam; que ces lois ne cessent d'être en vigueur et sont appliquées dans les Tribunaux des Cadis et des autorités.

Vous n'ignorez pas que les questions religieuses ne peuvent être dissoutes et que rien ne peut être changé aux principes qui les informent.

Conservez-vous bien et heureux.

Écrit le 30 Joumada 1er, 1324 (22 Juillet, 1906).

(Signé) ABDELKRIM-BEN-SLIMAN.

No. 45.

[29743]

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 3.)

(No. 561.)

Sir, *St. Petersburgh, August* 27, 1906.

I HAVE noticed by the telegrams sent by Lord Acton that the Moorish Government are endeavouring to raise the question of modifying certain Articles in the Algeciras Act, and, if I may be permitted, I should like, without desiring to travel outside of my province, to submit a few remarks on two of the points raised by the Moorish Government.

The Moorish Government, I notice, wish to have the faculty of transferring the Police Instructors from one port to another (Article 3). The distribution of the French and Spanish Instructors formed one of the many thorny and delicate questions during the Conference; and, unless my memory is at fault, the German Delegates desired to place French Instructors in the northern ports and Spanish Instructors in the southern. To this proposal both the French and Spanish Delegates had strong objections, for obvious reasons; and it was only after considerable discussions, outside of the Conference room, that we were enabled to secure the general assent to the distribution as laid down in Article 12 of the General Act. I may remark that both the French and Spanish Delegates desired, in the first instance, that the Conference should not occupy itself with the distribution, but should leave it to be arranged amicably between the French and Spanish Governments. This point, however, could not be pressed.

If the Moorish Government were authorized to move the Instructors about from one port to another on their own initiative, great confusion would doubtless be caused, and they would possibly put into practice the original German proposal of French in the northern and Spanish in the southern ports.

I also observe that the Moorish Government desire that the Customs Committee (Article 97) should be dissolved in three years. This would remove, to my mind, one of the few guarantees which the Algeciras Act desired to establish for a fairly reasonable administration of the Customs. I always held the views, and pressed it on my colleagues both in and outside the Conference hall, that while we were taking measures—some, indeed, severe ones—to safeguard the interests of the Moorish fisc from frauds, we should equally adopt some steps to improve the woefully defective Customs Administration, which caused so much inconvenience to commercial and shipping interests.

Article 97 distinctly states that the Committee should be permanent, and the intention was, to the best of my recollection, that the members should be renewed every three years.

I have ventured to make these few remarks without dwelling on the fact that the Sultan of Morocco, having adopted the Algeciras Act in its integrity, is now seeking to modify some of its provisions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

[29610] No. 46.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 188.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, September* 3, 1906.

YOU should inform the French Government of the instructions contained in my telegram No. 43 of to-day's date to Lord Acton.

[29610] No. 47.

Sir Edward Grey to Lord Acton.

(No. 43.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, September* 3, 1906.

GENERAL Act of Algeciras Conference.

Your telegram No. 85 of the 31st ultimo.

The text of the Moorish interpretations reached us from the Spanish Embassy on the 31st August.

You should act in concert with your French colleague, and make communication to Spanish Government in terms similar to those used by him.

[30059] No. 48.

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received September 4.)

(No. 87.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *San Sebastian, September* 4, 1906.

MOORISH interpretation of Algeciras Act.

As instructed by your telegram No. 43, I will read to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs a Memorandum drawn up in similar terms to the verbal communication made to him by M. Jules Cambon before leaving.

My French colleague, who has telegraphed home for instructions, has received no communication from his Government since a telegram of the 1st instant, the substance of which was contained in the first paragraph of my telegram No. 86, and from which both he and I concluded that it was not intended to reply officially through the French and British Embassies here.

[30060] No. 48*.

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received September 4.)

(No. 88.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *San Sebastian, September* 4, 1906.

MOORISH interpretation of Algeciras Act.

The Russian Ambassador, whose Government has not yet received the text of the Circular, of which he apparently heard through M. Cambon, told me in confidence to-day that he has no doubt that they will take the same view as France and England, refusing to discuss the details of the demands, and rejecting them in their entirety. He shares the French Ambassador's view of the gravity of this development, the origin of which he also traces to Berlin.

Count Cassini will at my suggestion sound the German Chargé d'Affaires upon the subject, and inform me of the result of the interview.

His Excellency has mentioned the matter to the "Chef de Cabinet" of the Minister of State, who told him that he believed that Spain would also take the line of unconditional rejection.

Count Cassini, who spoke in a very friendly tone, appears convinced of Spain's loyal intentions towards her Mediterranean "allies."

[30197] No. 49.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received September 6.)

(No. 337.)
Sir, *Paris, September* 5, 1906.

IN the absence of M. Bourgeois from Paris, I communicated to M. Soulange Bodin, the Sous-Directeur, who is temporarily in charge of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the information contained in your telegram No. 181 of the 1st instant, in which you repeated to me Lord Acton's telegram No. 85 of the 31st ultimo, reporting his conversation with the French Ambassador at Madrid on the subject of the Sultan of Morocco's interpretations of the General Act of the Algeciras Conference.

I added that you had received these interpretations from the Spanish Ambassador on the 31st ultimo, and that you had sent telegraphic instructions to Lord Acton to concert with the French Ambassador with a view to making a communication to the Spanish Government in similar terms.

M. Soulange Bodin stated that no communication having been received from the Spanish Embassy on this subject, he had sent to inquire whether there was any intention of making one.

The Spanish Chargé d'Affaires replied that he considered that a document of so much importance ought to be communicated by the Ambassador, who was expected to return to Paris to-day or to-morrow.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[29679] No. 50.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. White.

(No. 20.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, September 6, 1906.*

CAVALRY instructor.

You should inform Sir H. Maclean, with reference to your telegram No. 37, that His Majesty's Government alone can decide as to the most suitable candidate, and that, if a British officer is to be appointed, his selection must be left to them.

[29606] No. 51.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. White.

(No. 102.) *Foreign Office, September 6, 1906.*

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 101 of the 4th instant, inclosing a copy of the paper containing the Sultan's interpretations of certain Articles of the Algeciras Act, which was communicated by the Spanish Ambassador on the 31st ultimo, I transmit to you the accompanying copy of a Memorandum left at this Office by the French Embassy on the same day,* containing the comments of the French Government on the Sultan's interpretations.

I request that, in the event of the matter being raised at Tangier, you will concert with your French colleague and support the objections of the French Government to the interpretations in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[30370] No. 52.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received September 7.)

(No. 40.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, September 7, 1906.*

CONSULAR officers at Mogador have reported that Kaïd Anfloos, Governor of Haha, has ordered all Jews, protected persons and foreign subjects included, to leave their houses in the town and move to the Jewish quarter. Kaïd Anfloos is in the town with 300 armed men, and disturbances are feared.

The French cruiser "Galilée" is leaving at once for Mogador to protect foreigners, and Sid Torres is sending troops to that place by special steamer, in accordance with a request received by him from the Governor.

The French Minister would prefer our not sending a ship, as the "Galilée" will be sufficient to protect foreigners.

[30371] No. 53.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received September 7.)

(No. 41.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, September 7, 1906.*

LOAN to Moorish Government.

My telegram No. 32 of the 23rd August.

I am informed by the French Minister that Mendelssohn claims to have a right to an equal share with the Consortium, or else that his loan must be paid off in accordance with the terms of his contract with the Moorish Government.

M. Regnault thinks that a division of the loan between all those participating in the State Bank would be the best course.

He considers the claim of the German Bank to be on an equal footing with the Consortium, inadmissible and significant.

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* No. 38.

[30372] No. 54.

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received September 7.)

(No. 89.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *San Sebastian, September 7, 1906.*

YOU will receive by post to-morrow the text of the communication which I made to the Spanish Foreign Minister on the 5th instant, on the subject of the Sultan of Morocco's interpretation of the Algeciras General Act.

The French Chargé d'Affaires has now received instructions to make a communication in an identical form and, so far as possible, in identical terms.

[30453] No. 55.

Mr. Lister to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received September 8.)

(No. 82.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Paris, September 8, 1906.*

MOORISH interpretation of Algeciras Act.

Sir F. Bertie's despatch No. 337 of the 5th September.

Document has been received by French Government from Spanish Embassy, and instructions were yesterday sent to the French Representative at Madrid to draw up, in concert with Lord Acton, a reply in similar terms to those which the latter used.

[30447] No. 56.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 475.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, September 8, 1906.*

COUNT DE MANNEVILLE called at this Office on the 3rd instant, on behalf of the French Ambassador, to inquire what line His Majesty's Government were taking with regard to the Moorish interpretations of the Algeciras Act, which had not yet been communicated to the French Government, although the French Ambassador to Spain had had some conversation on the subject with the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

He was informed that His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at San Sebastian had led His Majesty's Government to expect that these Moorish interpretations were to be communicated to His Majesty's Government by the Spanish Ambassador at this Court, and that a copy had been obtained from his Excellency as the result of a personal application on the 1st instant.

Count de Manneville was also told that, on learning that the French Ambassador to Spain had told the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that the French Government rejected these interpretations in their entirety, I had instructed Lord Acton to hold similar language to the Spanish Government, as His Majesty's Government desired to act entirely in accordance with that of France in this matter.

Count de Manneville, who was quite satisfied with this assurance, said that so far no written communication had been made by the French Government because they had not yet received the text of the Moorish "interpretations." The Spanish Government had shown an inexplicable hesitation in making this communication, as though they considered that the matter was not one which concerned them.

Count de Manneville seemed to think that M. Cambon might call here this week to consider both the terms of a written reply to the Moorish document and also the question as to whom the reply, if any, should be addressed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[30646] No. 57.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 10.)

(No. 159.) *Tangier, September* 1, 1906.

Sir,

THE French Minister has inquired of me whether I had received reports as to a number of German engineers, who are at present in all parts of this country, prospecting, collecting, and examining specimens of ores, and generally busy in the search of subjects for concessions, mining or otherwise.

I informed M. Regnault that I had heard of a Mr. Mannisman, who had been at Fez for some time, and was assaying ores brought to him by natives from various places, but that I had received no reports in regard to other German engineers in this country, except those employed in connection with the harbour works at Tangier and Laraiche.

M. Regnault told me that reports had reached him that a brother of Mr. Mannisman was working at Tetuan, and other German engineers prospecting in various districts. He observed that Article 112 of the General Act of Algeciras in regard to mining concessions is vague, the subject having been dealt with late in the proceedings, when the police and State bank questions had already been settled, and when all the Delegates were anxious to bring the Conference to a close, and that, therefore, though they regarded the wording of this Article as unsatisfactory, M. Révoil and he himself did not think it advisable to raise objections in regard to it. M. Regnault, however, now feared that these German engineers may obtain from the Sultan valuable mining concessions, the stipulations of the Algeciras Act being evaded by alleging that the Moorish Government itself would work the mines, and that the German engineers were merely employés.

The approaching Mission to Fez of the German Minister may be taken advantage of by Mr. Mannisman and others for obtaining from the Makhzen the concessions they require.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[30670] No. 58.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 10.)

(No. 160.) *Tangier, September* 4, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to Mr. Lowther's despatch No. 129 of the 14th July, inclosing translation of a letter he had addressed to the Moorish Government in regard to the transport by sea of slaves intended for sale, I have the honour to report that a Shereefian letter has been received by the Administrators of Customs at Tangier, and, as I understand, at all the other ports, reprimanding them for their inattention to their standing instructions forbidding the transport by sea of slaves, and giving them stringent orders to keep strict watch, and should any person be discovered bringing slaves by sea to punish him, and to free the slaves in his possession.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[30703] No. 59.

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 10.)

(No. 160.) *San Sebastian, September* 5, 1906.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith copy of a Memorandum which, in accordance with the sense of your instructions, I have this day read to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, informing him of the views of His Majesty's Government upon the Sultan of Morocco's interpretation of the Algeciras Act.

In communicating the contents of this Memorandum, I informed Señor Gullon that I was taking an analogous step to the verbal communication made to his Excellency by the French Ambassador on the 31st ultimo, already reported to you.

Don Pio Gullon observed that the views expressed in my statement correspond with those held by the Spanish Government, but that it would be necessary to examine the question in all its bearings. He added that the matter will be referred to the Commission which is engaged in the preparation of the Morocco Red Book, and which will also deal with all matters arising out of the Conference.

I understand that this Commission, of which Señor Perez Caballero, of Algeciras notoriety, is a member, will be utilized by the Foreign Minister to relieve him of the labour of dealing with the Moorish question, and will thus spare him the necessity of making immediate replies to communications received from the Signatory Powers on the subject.

The inclosed Memorandum was previously shown by me to the French Chargé d'Affaires, who will make a similar communication if so instructed by his Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ACTON.

Inclosure in No. 59.

Memorandum communicated by Lord Acton to Señor Gullon.

LE Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique a reçu, le 31 Août, communication des demandes du Maghzen relatives à l'Acte d'Algésiras, par l'intermédiaire de l'Ambassade d'Espagne à Londres.

Conformément à ses instructions, le Chargé d'Affaires d'Angleterre a l'honneur de faire savoir à son Excellence le Ministre d'État que le Gouvernement Anglais, d'accord avec celui de la République Française, ne saurait admettre la possibilité d'aucune discussion sur aucun des points définis par l'Acte d'Algésiras.

L'examen d'une seule des demandes du Maghzen suffirait à autoriser la présentation de nouvelles requêtes, et à remettre en cause toutes les questions réglées à Algésiras.

C'est là une politique dans laquelle l'Angleterre ne pourrait s'engager.

Elle s'en tient à l'adhésion officielle du Sultan, qu'elle considère comme irrévocable.

Le Gouvernement Britannique espère que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Catholique, fidèle à la politique d'union avec l'Angleterre et la France que l'Espagne a suivie pendant toute la Conférence d'Algésiras, et aux accords qui en sont la base, partagera cette manière de voir, et écartera également, d'une manière absolue, la demande Marocaine.

San Sebastian, ce 5 Septembre, 1906.

[30790] No. 60.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 11.)

(No. 42.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, September* 10, 1906.

ACCORDING to despatches received from Mogador dated the 7th instant, there has been no disturbance beyond some stone throwing. The majority of the Jews living in the Moorish quarter have vacated their houses, but as there was no exodus by the French steamer which left on the 7th, there would not appear to be any panic.

In the case of two foreign subjects, one British and the other French, who were amongst those ordered to remove, a compromise appears to have been effected.

[30867] No. 61.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 11.)

(No. 43.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, September* 11, 1906.

WITH reference to the report contained in my telegram No. 42 of yesterday relative to the position of affairs at Mogador, I have the honour to state that, according to a despatch received by the Spanish Minister from the Spanish Consul at Mogador, Kaïd Anfloos and his men have now withdrawn from the town.

[30755] No. 62.

Sir Edward Grey to Lord Acton.

(No. 106.) *Foreign Office, September* 11, 1906.

My Lord,

THE Spanish Ambassador called at this Office on the 5th instant in order to ascertain the opinion of His Majesty's Government in regard to the interpretations placed by the Sultan of Morocco upon certain Articles of the Algeciras Act.

His Excellency, who was under the impression that he had already asked this question in a note, was informed that His Majesty's Government held the same view as the French Government, namely, that these interpretations could not be considered, and must be rejected in their entirety, and that the British Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid had, under instructions from me, made a communication to that effect to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

His Excellency seemed to consider that a written communication on the subject was unnecessary, and was told that His Majesty's Government had this point under consideration.

He was also informed that His Majesty's Government attached great importance to the Spanish Government acting in complete agreement with them in this matter, in reply to which observation he stated that there was no doubt as to the attitude of his Government, who merely desired to be made acquainted with the views of His Majesty's Government.

I am, &c
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[30670] No. 63.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. White.

(No. 106.) *Foreign Office, September* 13, 1906.

Sir,

I HAVE received your despatch No. 160 of the 4th instant, on the subject of the instructions issued by the Sultan to the Administrators of Customs at Tangier and other ports of Morocco in regard to the transport of slaves by sea, and I request that you will impress upon His Majesty's Consular officers at Moorish ports that they should watch how the Sultan's orders are carried out, and report any cases that may come to their notice of the transport of slaves by sea.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[30670] No. 64.

Foreign Office to British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society.

Foreign Office, September 14, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to Sir E. Barrington's letter of the 25th July, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to inform you that he has received a despatch from His Majesty's Representative at Tangier, reporting that a Shereefian letter has been addressed to the Administrators of Customs at Tangier, and, as he understands, at all the other ports, reprimanding them for their inattention to their standing instructions which forbid the transport of slaves by sea, and giving them stringent orders to keep strict watch, and in the event of any person being discovered bringing slaves by sea to punish him and free the slaves in his possession.

Mr. White has been requested to impress upon His Majesty's Consular officers at the Moorish ports that they should watch how the Sultan's orders are carried out, and report any cases which may occur of the transport of slaves by sea.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES HARDINGE.

[31432] No. 65.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received September 17.)

(No. 161.)

Sir, *Tangier, September* 7, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 159 of the 1st instant, I have the honour to report that the French Minister informs me that, having heard that M. Mannisman, the German engineer now at Fez, was endeavouring to obtain a concession for a railway from Tangier to Laraiche, and that a Belgian firm was associated with him in the scheme, he called upon the Belgian Minister and inquired whether he could tell him anything of the matter.

Count de Buisseret assured M. Regnault that he had never heard of the scheme, either here or at Brussels, from which place he had just returned. He added that it was, of course, possible that some Belgian firm might be interested in such a scheme, but, in any case, no application in regard to it had been made to the Legation.

M. Regnault expressed his satisfaction at this assurance, adding that the information in regard to the proposed railway had reached him from Paris as well as from local sources, and that it would create a very bad impression were the Belgian Government or Legation to lend their support to an application to the Moorish Government for any such concession, for it would be in distinct contravention of the terms of the Algeciras Act, which he considered as being already morally binding on all the Signatory Powers, although the ratifications had not yet been exchanged.

With these views the Belgian Minister expressed his full concurrence.

M. Regnault then called upon the German Chargé d'Affaires, and, in speaking of the question of a water supply for Tangier, in regard to which a letter has been received from the Court requesting the foreign Representatives to invite tenders for the work, he introduced the general question of concessions, holding language similar to that he held to the Belgian Minister.

Baron Langwerth declared himself to be in complete agreement with M. Regnault in the matter, and stated it as his opinion that no application should be made to the Moorish Government for any concession until after the ratification of the General Act of Algeciras and until the necessary arrangements have been made thereunder, adding that it was incumbent on all the Governments to act with perfect loyalty in giving effect to the Agreement come to at Algeciras.

M. Regnault having expressed his satisfaction at learning that their views in this respect were in agreement, Baron Langwerth observed that Dr. Rosen would return from Germany in a week's time and would start a week later for Fez, but that the only purpose of his mission was to present his credentials.

The French Minister considered these interviews very satisfactory, the German Chargé d'Affaires having spoken quite frankly and without embarrassment, and not as though he were expressing merely personal views. He therefore thought it improbable that the German Legation could support any application for concessions put forward by a German subject.

M. Regnault added that he had also spoken to the Italian Minister on the general question of the grant of concessions, and, though at first inclined to the view that, until the ratifications of the General Act had been exchanged, its provisions as regards concessions could hardly be regarded as binding, M. Malmusi had subsequently, on further consideration, and on being reminded of what had been said at one of the Committee meetings at Algeciras, admitted that no application for concessions could be entertained until the provisions of the General Act come into force.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[31433] No. 66.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received September 17.)

(No. 162.)

Sir, *Tangier, September* 8, 1906.

THE Moorish Government, being again in urgent need of money, made an application a short time since to a M. Braunschwig, a French merchant here, with whom they have many dealings, for a loan of about half-a-million sterling.

M. Braunschwig, not feeling disposed to make the loan himself, consulted the Agent of the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, which is at the head of the Syndicate of Banks who made the existing loan. The French Government, being consulted in the matter, replied that it was inadvisable that a loan should be made through M. Braunschwig, as being contrary to existing engagements.

In the meantime, the Moorish Government had made a similar application to M. Pariente, the local agent for the loan made last autumn by the German Bank of Mendelssohn. The Syndicate, having presumably heard of this application, addressed a letter to Messrs. Mendelssohn, acquainting them with the application to M. Braunschwig, and observing that, under the terms of their contract with the Makhzen, they claimed a preferential right in regard to any loan the Moorish Government might make before the establishment of the State Bank provided for in the Algeciras Act.

Messrs. Mendelssohn, in reply to this communication, acknowledged the preferential rights of the Syndicate, and, acquainting them with the application which had been made to them by the Moorish Government, suggested that the loan should be taken up by them jointly in the same manner as they had given the Syndicate a half share in their "advance" to the Makhzen last autumn, after a share had been given to Messrs. Montagu, of London.

The Syndicate consulted the French Government on this proposal, and being advised that it was inexpedient to give the German Bank an equal share in any loan they might make, they replied to Messrs. Mendelssohn taking note of their acknowledgment of their preferential rights, and stating that, should they exercise that right and make a loan to the Moorish Government, it would be merely in the nature of an advance on behalf of the future State Bank, and would be transferred to that bank without any commission being charged. They added that they did not propose themselves to make any offer of a loan to the Moorish Government, but to wait for that Government to approach them on the subject.

This reply did not satisfy the German Bank, who are insisting on having a half share in any loan the Syndicate may make to the Moorish Government, on the ground that their contract with the Makhzen provides for their "advance" being paid off out of the proceeds of the first loan that may be raised.

The French Minister regards this insistence on the part of the German Bank in claiming to be on an equal footing with the Syndicate in the matter of loans as significant of the general attitude of Germany in this country. He is opposed to anything being done which could be construed as admitting in any way the privileged position Messrs. Mendelssohn now claim, and he has suggested that should any further loan be made to the Moorish Government before the establishment of the State Bank, it should be divided between the banks participating in the State Bank in the proportions laid down in Article 56 of the General Act.

I now learn from Kaïd Sir H. Maclean that the Sultan has informed him that he has decided to apply to the French Syndicate for the required loan instead of obtaining it elsewhere. This decision has been taken in consequence of the advice tendered to the Sultan by Sir H. Maclean, at my suggestion, when informing Hi Majesty that he was unable to raise a loan in England.

I have communicated this information privately to M. Regnault, warning him, however, that the Sultan is changeable in such matters, and that it is quite possible that some of the Viziers may dissuade His Majesty from following this course.

His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez informs me that the loan offered by the Algiers and Morocco Company has been definitely refused.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[31934] No. 67.

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 21.)

(No. 93. Secret.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *San Sebastian, September* 21, 1906.

THE reply of Germany to the request of Spain for her views on the subject of the Moorish interpretation of the Algeciras Act is to the effect that she considers that this question, which is addressed to all Signatory Powers, should be referred to the

Diplomatic Body at Tangier, in view of the negotiations which are about to take place on the subject of the execution of the General Act, and therefore declines to give a separate opinion.

The above information has come to my knowledge by chance.

[32144] No. 68.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 24.)

(No. 168.)
Sir, *Tangier, September* 15, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that on the 7th instant telegrams were received at all the Legations here, viâ the Canary Islands, from the Consuls at Mogador, confirming telegrams sent by the Spanish Consul, as their doyen, to the Spanish Minister in regard to the proceedings of Kaïd Anfloos, Governor of the Haha province.

Unfortunately the Spanish Consul's telegrams were much mutilated in transmission and many portions were undecypherable. They were dated the 2nd and 4th September, and their general purport was that Kaïd Anfloos had installed himself at Mogador with 300 armed followers, and had insisted on all Jews vacating their houses in the Moorish quarter of the town and removing to the Mellah, or Ghetto, threatening to turn them out by force and to burn their furniture if they did not obey; that some protégés and foreign subjects were affected by these orders; that disturbances were feared; and that the Governor of the town had declared himself powerless, and stated that he was telegraphing to request Sid Torres to send him at once 300 additional troops.

Upon receipt of these telegrams a meeting of the foreign Representatives was at once held and the situation was discussed. The French Minister informed us that he had directed that the cruiser "Galilée" to leave Tangier at once for Mogador, and had instructed the Captain to afford protection to all foreigners as well as Frenchmen. It was known also that a French merchant vessel would arrive at Mogador about that time and would thus afford foreigners and Jews a means of escape if necessary; ample protection would thus be provided.

At the request of the Representatives the Italian Minister, as doyen, called upon Sid Torres to impress upon him the necessity of taking all possible steps to secure the safety of the inhabitants of Mogador in their persons and property, and to suggest the advisability of sending 500 troops to the place at once.

His Excellency assured the Italian Minister that, with the troops already there, 300 men would be amply sufficient, and promised to dispatch them as soon as possible.

I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I subsequently received from the Acting Vice-Consul at Mogador, giving an account of Kaïd Anfloos' proceedings up to the 3rd instant.

I should, perhaps, explain that the town of Mogador is divided into three districts: the "Mellah," exclusively inhabited by the Jews; the "Medina," or Mahommedan quarter; and the "Kasbah," where most of the merchants reside. It was merely the Jews residing in the Medina who were required to remove by Kaïd Anfloos. He did not, I understand, object to their retaining offices in the Medina, but merely to their living there.

It appears from later reports that there were never any serious disturbances, and that the panic soon subsided, so that there was no exodus from the town by a French steamer which left on the 8th instant. Once the Jews were cleared out of the Medina, Kaïd Anfloos and his followers left the town, so that when the French cruiser arrived at the Mogador that evening, it found everything quiet in the town, and business going on as usual.

The troops sent from Tangier subsequently arrived, and the Governor having declared that he was now able to maintain order in the town, the "Galilée" returned to Tangier.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

P.S.—Since closing this despatch, I have received from the Acting Vice-Consul at Mogador copy of a Circular letter addressed by the Governor of that town to the Consular Corps, requesting them to warn foreign subjects not to venture any distance

outside the town walls, as the neighbourhood was not safe. I beg leave to inclose herewith a translation of this letter.

Kaïd Anfloos is said to have expressed his intention of returning shortly to Mogador; but with the additional troops now at his disposal, the Governor of that town should be able to keep him out. Unfortunately, however, he is a timorous man of no energy, and no reliance can be placed on him.

H. E. W.

Inclosure 1 in No. 68.

Acting Vice-Consul Broome to Mr. White.

Sir, *Mogador, September* 3, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that eleven days ago Kaïd Anfloos, one of the Governors of Haha, came into the town with about 300 armed followers, and, since his arrival, has gradually assumed a sort of dictatorship in the town. Our own Governor, Si Bargash, who was nominated Governor about eighteen months ago, last night informed the Consular Corps of this town that he is quite powerless to oppose any restrictions to Anfloos' assumption of authority.

Last night Mr. Buegas, the Spanish Consul and doyen of the Consular Corps, called a meeting at 9 o'clock, when the Governor was present, and stated that he had received a message from Anfloos demanding that every Jewish family resident in the Medina was to be turned out within twenty-four hours, failing which the Jews must take the consequence.

The Governor stated that, as far as he knew, Anfloos had no authority from His Majesty the Sultan, or from the Minister of Foreign Affairs at Tangier to take the authority out of his hands; but seeing that he had such a large number of armed men ready to obey his behests, and he himself only a few armed soldiers who were not to be depended upon, he therefore asked for our advice.

The meeting lasted up to midnight, and my colleagues agreed that we should recommend Si Bargash to avoid bringing matters to a serious crisis, but temporally to humour Anfloos by recommending the Jews to find quarters in the Mellah (or Jews' town).

The Spanish Consul is sending a cablegram to the Spanish Minister in our names, which will be communicated to all the foreign Legations at Tangier.

The particulars of Anfloos' doings are as follows:—

Last week he sent for the Jewish Hazans (Rabbins) and told them to inform them that their coreligionists had no right to live in the Medina, and that they must all clear out at once. Then he sent for them again, informing them that all Jews must pass barefooted and bareheaded when passing a mosque or a zeniah.

On Saturday last all the Hooligans of the town, encouraged and assisted by Anfloos' men, threw stones and smashed all the windows on the main street in the Mellah.

To-day he has forbidden the Jews to use grapes for the purpose of making wine, and all Jewish shops in every part of the town are closed, as it is feared a general plunder may take place.

There are 150 families of Jews turned out of their dwellings in the Medina to-day, and to find dwelling in the Mellah or in the Kasbah is perfectly impossible; and, indeed, I may briefly state that the present conditions of affairs is likely to result in disaster to life and property, unless prompt measures are taken to remove this fanatic Anfloos, which can only be done by sending soldiers from Tangier.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. BROOME.

Inclosure 2 in No. 68.

Governor of Mogador to Consular Body at that Town.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) 18 *Rajeb*, 1324 (*September* 8, 1906).

YOU must be aware of what happened through the action of Anfloos here in Mogador, and after he left for his country. Fears are entertained for the safety of

persons going outside the town gates, and we have therefore notified you that you be aware, and that you may speak to your nationals and protégés, requesting them to avoid going out in that direction except for a very short distance from the town and no further, until it appears how things will turn out and safely be guaranteed; therefore, if any person should go outside and be insulted, he will have himself to blame. We have written this to you as a full caution.

(Signed) ABDERRAHMAN BARGASH.

[32145] No. 69.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 24.)

(No. 169.)
Sir, *Tangier, September* 15, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 155 of the 25th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith translation of the letter which the Italian Minister, as doyen of the Diplomatic Body, is addressing Sid-ben-Sliman in reply to his letter of the 22nd July, conveying the Sultan's reply on the subject of the declaration regarding slavery made by Sir A. Nicolson at the Conference at Algeciras, and adhered to by all the other Delegates.

Some delay has occurred in the dispatch of this letter owing to the return of several Ministers at short intervals after each other, which involved a corresponding change in the person of the doyen.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 69.

Doyen of Diplomatic Body to Sid-ben-Sliman.

NOUS avons reçu votre lettre du 22 Juillet. Ayant, cependant, réfléchi sur son contenu, nous sommes convaincus que le Gouvernement Chérifien n'a pas bien compris le sens de la résolution prise, à l'unanimité, à Algésiras, concernant l'esclavage, qui vous a été remise par M. le Ministre d'Italie pendant son séjour à Fez; car les Représentants des Puissances à la Conférence d'Algésiras, qui était imbue des plus hauts égards pour la religion de l'Empire Chérifien, n'ont nullement entendu demander à Sa Majesté le Sultan quelque chose qui pourrait porter atteinte aux lois religieuses du Coran. C'est, au contraire, ce dernier qui, guidé par les considérations humanitaires, exhorte à bien traiter les créatures humaines. Partant donc de cette même idée, les dits Représentants se sont adressés à Sa Majesté le Sultan en le priant de vouloir bien daigner, dans sa haute sagesse et justice connues, s'occuper de la matière de l'esclavage de son Empire, pour trouver des moyens que Sa Majesté croirait être opportuns pour limiter et graduellement abolir les pratiques de l'esclavage, et surtout pour défendre la vente publique des esclaves dans les villes de son Empire, afin que la grande œuvre de la civilisation de mettre fin à l'état d'esclavage des êtres humains pourrait être exécutée dans l'Empire Chérifien, laquelle a été déjà mise en exécution dans l'Empire Ottoman.

Sa Majesté le Sultan, continuant l'œuvre de son illustre père à plusieurs reprises, a déjà daigné donner les ordres nécessaires pour supprimer de plus en plus le commerce des esclaves et pour empêcher les commerçants qui, n'envisageant que leur profit personnel, se mettent en possession de personnes mineures et innocentes, en les arrachant, soit par la ruse, soit par la force, à leurs parents. Qu'il plût à Sa Majesté, en poursuivant ce chemin, à aboutir à la fin susmentionnée.

Nous avons donc l'honneur d'attirer de nouveau l'attention du Gouvernement Marocain sur la résolution en question, en le priant de vouloir bien nous communiquer une réponse qui correspondrait à son sens que nous venons d'expliquer.

[32146] No. 70.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 24.)

(No. 170.)

Tangier, September 15, 1906.

Sir,

A SHEREEF of Shinghit, named Mâ-el-Aineen, who possesses great influence with the Sultan and comes nearly every year from his home, some distance south of Cape Juby, to visit His Majesty, accompanied by a horde of wild followers, has lately been at Fez, and left that place a short time since laden with presents on his return south.

It is said to be at the instigation of Mâ-el-Aineen that the Sultan resolved to remove to Marrakesh, and has announced his intention to do so. The Shereef is also believed to have given the Sultan advice of a reactionary nature as regards the reforms contemplated in the Algeciras Act.

I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida reporting that the followers of Mâ-el-Aineen have been creating disturbances in that town, attacking and wounding some Europeans.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 70.

Consul Maclean to Mr. White.

(No. 175.)

Dar-al-Baida, September 14, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 173 of the 12th instant, I have the honour to report that the followers of Mâ-el-Aineen have behaved badly towards the Europeans in Dar-al-Baida. Several of the latter have been molested and some of them wounded. One British subject was menaced with a gun pointed at his chest, but for this the Governor gave immediate satisfaction.

Several other Europeans were beaten, and I joined with my French, Spanish, and German colleagues in a collective request to the Governor that his Excellency would take measures to protect Europeans, and informing him that we held him responsible for the safety of our respective nationals.

His Excellency sent guards to the gates and fussed about, but took no effective measures, and consequently there were further incidents.

My Spanish and French colleagues are, I believe, making serious representations to their respective Ministers in Tangier, as more than one Spaniard were rather badly handled, and a French smith had his premises robbed and his employés beaten.

These Mâ-el-Aineen people are very fanatical towards all Europeans. They come from far south of the Draa, and on the occasion of passing through this part of Morocco on their way to or from Fez they receive much consideration and distinction from the local authorities and others. If our Governor had been prudent he would have taken measures of precaution, but he is a weak man and very fanatical.

Most of these wild people have now left, but I fear other coast towns may be visited by them, and in Mogador their arrival may lead to a regrettable incident.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

[32469] No. 71.

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 26.)

(No. 166.)

San Sebastian, September 18, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to my telegram No. 88 of the 4th instant, I have the honour to report that I was informed last night by the Russian Ambassador that M. Isvolsky had stated to the Spanish Ambassador at St. Petersburgh that the Russian Government reject categorically the demands put forward by the Sultan of Morocco in respect of certain Articles of the Algeciras Act.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ACTON.

[32645] No. 72.

Mr. H. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 27.)

(No. 46.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, September* 27, 1906.

SOME men, said to be soldiers of the Governor of Tekna, have attacked a Frenchman on the Mogador road, about nine hours from Marakesh. Only one shot took effect, though many were fired, the Frenchman being severely, though not dangerously, wounded in the thigh. Subsequently the Governor compelled him to make a declaration exonerating his men, and refused to allow him to proceed on his journey to Marakesh until he had done so.

[32875] No. 73.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received September* 29.)

(No. 47.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, September* 29, 1906.

CAVALRY instructor.

I hear from Kaïd Maclean that the Sultan will apply for an instructor as soon as he requires one, but that he does not need one at present.

[33022] No. 74.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 1.)

(No. 172.)

Sir, *Tangier, September* 19, 1906.

ON the 1st instant Sid Torres addressed a letter to the doyen of the Diplomatic Body, stating that the Sultan, desiring to provide Tangier with a water supply, is inviting tenders for the work under certain terms which are to be published in the local press, and of which his Excellency transmits a copy for the information of the Diplomatic Body.

I have the honour to inclose herewith translation of this letter, as also of the terms as advertised in the local press.*

In thus taking the initiative in the matter of the Tangier water supply, and inviting tenders for the work, it is evidently the desire of the Moorish Government to block the demand of the French Legation for confirmation of the authority given to M. Régis to lay down water pipes to the town and beach (see Mr. Lowther's despatch No. 107 of the 15th June last).

M. Malmusi, the Italian Minister, who is doyen of the Diplomatic Body, having returned from leave of absence shortly after the receipt of this letter, called a meeting of his colleagues to discuss the question.

At this meeting the Foreign Representatives were unanimously of opinion that the action of the Moorish Government, in thus inviting tenders for a public work without previous consultation with the Diplomatic Body, was contrary to the established custom of this country and also to the provisions of the Algeciras Act. It was therefore decided that the doyen should address a letter to Sid Torres pointing out the irregularity of the procedure, explaining the form in which tenders should be invited, and suggesting that the invitation for tenders which had already been published be withdrawn.

The French Minister informed the meeting that he reserved his liberty of action in regard to the rights of M. Régis.

I beg leave to transmit herewith a copy of the draft of the letter to be addressed by the doyen to Sid Torres, which has been approved by all the foreign Representatives.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

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* Not printed.

Inclosure 1 in No. 74.

Sid Torres to Mr. Gummere.

Le 1er Septembre, 1906.

(Compliments.)

LE Gouvernement Chérifien ayant le désir d'apporter les eaux à Tanger, l'ordre Chérifien a été donné de communiquer le cahier des charges y relatif à toutes les Compagnies. Sa Majesté examinera les propositions de chacune de ces Compagnies et celle dont la réponse offrira le plus d'avantages, de façon à ce que les habitants de la ville et d'autres personnes aient de l'eau en abondance, il sera conclu avec elle un contrat.

Sa Majesté a établi des conditions et accordé des facilités dont les Compagnies auront à prendre note, et pour que toutes les Compagnies en aient connaissance, il a été jugé nécessaire de publier le règlement s'y référant dans les journaux locaux. Vous recevrez ci-joint la copie de la publication à faire pour que vous en preniez note vous-même et que vous en donniez connaissance aux membres du Corps Diplomatique, les amis.

Restez en paix, &c.

(Signé) HAMED-BEN-EL-ARBI TORRES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 74.

M. Malmusi to Sid Torres.

(Traduction du projet.)

LE Corps Diplomatique s'est réuni pour examiner la question que soulève la lettre de votre Excellence en date du 1er Septembre et le cahier des charges qui y était annexé, tous deux relatifs à l'adduction des eaux à Tanger. En même temps le Corps Diplomatique a eu connaissance de la publication que le Makhzen a jugé à propos de faire dans la presse locale. Cette manière de procéder n'a pas paru conforme aux précédents suivis jusqu'à ce jour dans les relations entre le Gouvernement Chérifien et les Légations. Il est en effet l'usage constant que toutes les communications destinées aux nationaux des divers pays sont laissées aux soins des Légations intéressées qui restent juges de la suite à leur donner.

Après un examen du texte du cahier des charges, le Corps Diplomatique s'est persuadé que le Makhzen n'a pas bien saisi de cette délicate question de l'adjudication, telle qu'elle a été établie par l'Acte d'Algésiras. Il résulte notamment de l'Article 108 qu'au moment que le Makhzen fait part au Corps Diplomatique de son désir de procéder à une adjudication, il doit lui transmettre le cahier des charges, plans, devis et tous documents annexés, de façon à ce que les nationaux des Puissances Signataires puissent se rendre compte des travaux projetés et être à même d'y concourir. Or, la lettre de votre Excellence a omis de transmettre au Corps Diplomatique les plans, devis et documents nécessaires, et il apparaît que le Makhzen n'a pu les faire établir, puisqu'il se réserve de choisir entre les projets qui lui seraient soumis. Telle n'est pas la manière de procéder. Il faut, après avoir fait effectuer des études sur l'entreprise, choisir le projet le meilleur d'après l'avis des gens compétents, et c'est alors seulement qu'on peut mettre en adjudication l'exécution du projet, en communiquant aux intéressés tous les documents qui leur permettront d'apprécier la nature et la valeur du travail.

En outre, afin d'éviter des difficultés et des réclamations, l'Acte d'Algésiras a prévu dans son Article 110 qu'un Règlement établi par le Gouvernement Chérifien avec l'assistance du Corps Diplomatique arrêteraient les formes et les conditions générales prescrites pour les adjudications. Le Corps Diplomatique est persuadé que les intentions du Makhzen concordent avec les siennes en vue de régler la question si urgente de l'adduction de l'eau à Tanger et sera prêt à entreprendre l'examen du Règlement prévu par l'Article 110. Avec l'assistance du Makhzen une solution interviendra sans retard, mais on ne saurait, votre Excellence le comprendra, procéder dès maintenant à une adjudication avant que ce Règlement n'ait été achevé.

Il y a lieu en effet de se tenir strictement aux règles fixées par l'Acte d'Algésiras. Sa Majesté Chérifienne sera certainement d'accord avec le Corps Diplomatique pour déclarer que les signatures apposées au bas de l'Acte obligent les Puissances Signataires à ce que rien ne doit être entrepris qui serait de nature à rendre illusoires ses dispositions.

Aussi Sa Majesté, après ces indications, voudra-t-elle déclarer qu'il y a lieu de soumettre à une nouvelle étude le cahier des charges communiqué afin de le mettre en concordance avec les dispositions qui précèdent.

Votre Excellence jugera, en attendant, tout à fait conséquent et indispensable de faire suspendre et arrêter les annonces insérées dans les journaux dans l'intérêt évident du public et du Makhzen et afin d'éviter les risques d'éventuelles et légitimes réclamations.

[33024] No. 75.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 1.)

(No. 174.)

Sir, *Tangier, September* 22, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that the German Minister, Dr. Rosen, started this morning on his Mission to Fez. He is accompanied by Captain de Tschudi, Captain Bronsart de Schellendorf, Military Attaché at Madrid, Lieutenant Count de Pfeil, an army surgeon, a dragoman, and a Chancelier.

Lieutenant-Colonel Huebner and Mr. Hermann Burchardt also accompany the Mission in an unofficial capacity. The former visited Algeria some two years ago, and made a special study of the whole line of frontier with Morocco, his report thereon being flattering to the French Administration. Though nominally in an unofficial capacity, he is probably not the least important member of the Mission.

The object of Dr. Rosen's Mission to Fez is ostensibly merely to present his credentials. He will, however, doubtless tender advice to the Sultan on many matters, and has, I understand, the intention of speaking seriously to His Majesty in regard to the recent occurrences at Tangier, Mogador, and Dar-el-Baida.

In view of the formal assurances given by the German Chargé d'Affaires shortly before Dr. Rosen's return from Germany, it is clear that no official support can be given by him when at Fez to any demands for Concessions put forward by German engineers and others.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[33850] No. 76.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 7.)

(No. 48.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 7, 1906.

M. MALMUSI, doyen of the Diplomatic Body, has received a note from Sid Torres in which he states that he himself, El Mokri, and two other officials have been appointed to discuss the various matters which have been reserved for consideration at Tangier by the terms of the Algeciras Act, and requests that a date may be fixed to commence the discussions, as El Mokri and his colleagues have already arrived here.

M. Malmusi is replying that the foreign Representatives are referring to their respective Governments for instructions.

The opinion generally held by the foreign Representatives is that the discussions should be postponed until the Act has been ratified.

[33944] No. 77.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 8.)

(No. 175.)

Sir, *Tangier, September* 24, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatches Nos. 168 and 170 of the 15th instant, regarding recent disturbances at Mogador and Daralbaida, when the lives and properties of foreign subjects and protected persons were endangered through the neglect or inability of the local authorities to maintain order, I have the honour to report that it appeared to me desirable that a representation on the subject should be made to the Court in order to impress on the Sultan the necessity of taking prompt and efficient steps to prevent the recurrence of such incidents. As a representation made collectively by the foreign Representatives would have more force

than separate action by some of them, and as some days had passed without the Italian Minister, as doyen, or any of the other Representatives taking the initiative in the matter, I called upon the French Chargé d'Affaires and discussed the matter with him. Finding Count Saint Aulaire in complete agreement with my views, I also called upon the Italian and German Ministers, who both expressed their concurrence, and at my request the former addressed a Circular to the Diplomatic Body putting forward my suggestion, which was unanimously accepted.

I beg leave to transmit herewith translation of the letter which the doyen is addressing to the Moorish Government on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 77.

M. Malmusi to Sid hen Sliman.

(Traduction.)
(Compliments.)

LES désordres qui viennent de se produire à Casablanca, succédant de si près aux troubles de Mogador, les actes de violence commis dans l'une et l'autre ville contre des protégés et nationaux étrangers ont fort ému les Colonies Européennes et sérieusement préoccupé l'esprit des Représentants des Puissances.

A leur avis (c'est au nom de tous mes collègues que j'écris à votre Excellence) il y a une nécessité absolue pour le Maghzen de mettre fin, par des mesures énergiques, à un état aussi déplorable des choses.

Cette nécessité le Maghzen l'a reconnue lors des événements du 16 Août dernier à Tanger. A cette occasion le Naib Hadj Mohamed Torres nous donnait l'assurance que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Chérifienne ferait tous ses efforts et prendrait toutes les mesures afin de rétablir l'ordre et assurer la sécurité publique.

Assurer l'ordre et la sécurité, ce serait en effet assurer le bien-être et la prospérité de l'Empire et garantir à la fois ainsi que le Gouvernement Chérifien en a le devoir, les intérêts commerciaux, les biens, et la paisible existence des étrangers y établis à l'ombre des Traités.

Les Représentants des Puissances ont pleine confiance dans la haute sagesse et le ugement éclairé de Sa Majesté le Sultan et le bienveillant accueil que rencontrera jauprès d'elle leur présente communication.

Paix, &c.

[33945] No. 78.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 8.)

(No. 176.)
Sir, *Tangier, September* 27, 1906.

NEWS has reached Tangier that a M. Lassallas, agent at Marrakesh of the French Compagnie Marocaine, was on his way to that town on his return from a business excursion in the country when he was fired upon by a number of men who were lying in ambush for him.

M. Lassallas had spent the night at the "Zouïa" (or Sanctuary) of Ben Lahoul, the headman of which, Sid-el-Mahjoub, had accompanied him on his journey. The "Zouïa" is situated on Wad Bou-el-Ras, in the small tribe of Tekna, about 35 miles from Marrakesh, a little south of the Mogador road. The following morning he was going out shooting with his host and a servant when, at a short distance from the house, about 15 men hidden in the bushes opened fire on the party, who galloped back towards the "Zouïa," being again fired upon by another party consisting of from 15 to 20 horsemen. Arrived near to the "Zouïa," M. Lassallas, who as yet had escaped unhurt, was waiting for his servant to come up when more shots were fired, his hat being struck, and he himself receiving a severe wound in the thigh. M. Lassallas then entered the "Zouïa," which was immediately surrounded by a number of men. Soon after, the Governor of the district arrived on the scene and insisted on M. Lassallas accompanying him to his house, where he kept him practically prisoner, refusing to allow him to depart unless he made a declaration before notaries to the effect that the shots fired on him had come from the house of Sid Mahjoub, the Chief of the "Zouïa." It was only on the following morning that M. Lassallas was able to depart, after making

the declaration required of him. Upon his departure, Sid Mahjoub was arrested and cast into prison at the Governor's house.

The French Chargé d'Affaires tells me he is making a representation on the subject to the Moorish Government, but, in the present state of the country, he sees little prospect of obtaining the punishment of the Governor of Tekna or of those who fired on M. Lassallas. He presumes there will be a demand for an indemnity, but the Compagnie Marocaine are anxious to stand well with the Moorish Government, and it is possible they may not wish such a demand to be made on behalf of their agent. It was imprudent of M. Lassallas to travel in those districts at the present time.

News has also been received of an assault on a German in one of the principal streets of Marrakesh. He was walking with another German when he was seized from behind and thrown down by two Moors, one of whom drew a dagger. Some passers-by, however, interfered and rescued him. Complaint was made to the Lieutenant-Governor, who arrested the culprits.

The series of incidents in different parts of the country would appear to indicate a growing tendency on the part of the natives throughout the country to give effect to their feelings of dislike of Christians and Jews, which have hitherto been held in check by fear of the consequences—a fear which they have now learned to believe to have been groundless.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[33946] No. 79.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 8.)

(No. 177.)
Sir, *Tangier, September* 28, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that Sid Mokri and Sid Bennis who, with Sid Torres attended the Algeciras Conference as Moorish Delegates, have arrived at Tangier with instructions to discuss with the foreign Representatives the various matters remaining to be settled under the terms of the General Act.

Sid Mokri and Sid Bennis have not yet called upon any of the Representatives, but I am informed by M. Malmusi, the Italian Minister and doyen of the Diplomatic Body, that Sid Torres has mentioned to him the object of the presence at Tangier of these two officials. M. Malmusi told Sid Torres that the moment had not yet arrived for opening these discussions, but that if Sid Mokri and Sid Bennis desired to make any definite proposition to the foreign Representatives he would be prepared to receive a communication from them on the subject.

The German Chargé d'Affaires, in speaking to me of the arrival of these officials, also expressed the opinion that the discussions could not be commenced until after the exchange of the ratifications of the General Act.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[33948] No. 80.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 8.)

(No. 179.)
Sir, *Tangier, September* 29, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I have received from His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez, reporting the raid on the premises of one of the principal slave-dealers at Fez, and the discovery of thirty-five white girls and women, intended to be sold into slavery, though evidently free-born.

The slave-dealer, who holds a certificate of employment issued by the German Legation under Article IX of the Madrid Convention, 1880, has taken sanctuary in order to avoid arrest.

From another source I hear that the two other principal slave-dealers are believed also to have a number of free-born women in their possession, and that they are also

to be denounced to the Sultan; but, as they have very powerful protection at the Court, it is possible that His Majesty may be persuaded that the charges are unfounded, or they may be enabled to remove their "goods" before their houses are searched.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 80.

Vice-Consul Macleod to Mr. White.

(No. 44.) *Fez, September* 19, 1906.

Sir,

IN view of the general interest which has been manifest lately regarding slavery in Morocco, I have the honour to report the following incidents for your information:—

During recent years the principal slave-dealers in Fez have been Sid Al Araab-al-Filali, Sid Hamed Benkiran, and the Shereef Sidi Mohammed-ben-al-Khayat. Of these the most considerable is Al Araab-al-Filali.

Under date of the 1st January, 1906, the German Legation granted Al Araab-al-Filali a certificate as Mokhalat (partner or agent or employé) of the German firm of Ficke and Co., Fez.

By Article IX of the Madrid Convention, 1880, holders of such certificates may not be arrested without notice being given to the authority of the nation with whom they are connected. In this Article it is laid down that only the Mokhalat himself is immune from arrest without notice to the authority of his principal, but in practice it has always been held that the immunity extended to his property also, until, at any rate, any property in his hands which might belong to his principal could be identified and withdrawn by the latter.

Recently articles appeared in some Arabic newspapers published abroad to the effect that free white girls belonging to various Moorish tribes were frequently stolen from their homes and sold as slaves for concubinage, chiefly at Fez. It was alleged, further, that this traffic was increasing, and that it was countenanced by the Moorish Government, and that Al Araab-al-Filali was the principal dealer engaged in it.

Indignant at being accused of encouraging such a trade, the Moorish Government ordered one of the Cadis of Fez, Ben-al-Huari, to inquire into and report on the subject.

The Cadi reported that there was no foundation for those statements, and that Al Araab-al-Filali was innocent of any such traffic.

Dissatisfied with this report, the Moorish Government made further inquiries, on the outcome of which they decided to raid Al Araab-al-Filali's house. This was done on the 17th instant by the Acting Governor of Fez and a party of soldiers. Al Araab was out when the raid was made, and, fearing arrest, at once took sanctuary at Sidi Abdelkader-al-Fasi, where he still remains.

The upper floor of the house was occupied by Al Araab's family only. On the ground floor, however, fifty-two slave women and girls were found, and were taken to the Acting Governor's Court. Of these seventeen were negresses, manifestly not of Moorish lineage, but the remaining thirty-five were all white girls and women belonging obviously to Moorish tribes.

All fifty-two have, pending further orders by the Moorish Government, been sent to "Sidi Furz," a sort of hospital, which is also used as a house of correction for women. Al Araab, meanwhile, alleges that, besides the slaves, the soldiers pillaged his house of 500 louis d'or in specie, 16 mule loads of Tafilet leather (worth, say, 3,500 dollars), and affirms that the Acting German Consul assures him he will be compensated for the above loss, and also granted a solatium for the affront and, as he sees it, injustice he has suffered; and he asks why a certain group of very highly placed functionaries at Court, who amongst them, he says, (and in view of his business surely he ought to know), own many more of such white slave girls than he does, are not being molested.

I am told that Herr Bok, Manager of Ficke and Co.'s house here, has remonstrated strongly with the Acting Governor regarding the authorities' treatment of Al Araab, and has warned the Acting Governor that complaint is being made to the German Minister with the view of extracting damages. But on this point and on the attitude of the German Consulate my information is as yet incomplete, so I mention

the foregoing (*i.e.*, the affirmations of Al Araab and the threats imputed to Herr Bok) meanwhile under all reserve. I hope to inform you later regarding these points and to report the course of the affair.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. MACLEOD.

[34355] No. 81.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received October 10.)

(No. 105.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Paris, October* 10, 1906.

MOROCCO.

M. Bourgeois says that the Sultan of Morocco having accepted the Algeciras Act, it is complete so far as His Majesty is concerned, and the French Government will decline to discuss any questions arising out of it until after its ratification by all the Powers parties to it, and then only the details which are expressly reserved for discussion at Tangier.

[34355] No. 82.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. White.

(No. 26.)
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Foreign Office, October* 12, 1906.

SIR F. BERTIE'S telegram No. 105 [respecting questions under the Algeciras Act reserved for discussion at Tangier] explains view of French Government on point raised in your telegram No. 48 [of 7th October]. You should conform to action which your French colleague may be instructed to take in the matter.

[34513] No. 83.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received October 13.)

(No. 182.)
Sir, *Tangier, October* 4, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 168 of the 15th ultimo, I have the honour to report that Kaïd Anflous has not attempted to return to Mogador, where there have been no further disturbances.

Mr. Consul Maclean informs me that it is said that one of the motives of Kaïd Anflous in turning the Jews out of the Moorish quarter of Mogador was that some of the Jews had established drinking shops and brothels in that part of the town.

I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch from the Acting Vice-Consul at Mogador, reporting that the Governor of that town maintains his warning that people are not to venture any distance outside the town, although Kaïd Anflous has addressed a letter to the Consular Corps assuring them that Europeans may travel without fear in the district under his jurisdiction.

It is reported that orders have been issued from the Court for several of the neighbouring tribes to attack Anflous and endeavour to capture him. There is, however, no official confirmation of this report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 83.

Acting Vice-Consul Broome to Consul Maclean.

(No. 39.)
Sir, *Mogador, September* 20, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herein a copy of a letter in Arabic which was handed to the Spanish Consul by Kaïd Anflous' Khalifa. This letter does not bear the Governor's seal, and was most probably written in town by the Khalifa by his Governor's instructions.

The Governor of the town still refuses to sanction Europeans going out of town into the country as he considers it unsafe to do so. In consequence of this condition of affairs Mr. Nairn is unable to proceed to his home in Morocco city, and is awaiting a steamer to land him at Saffi for that purpose.

It is the opinion of my colleagues here that Kaïd Anflous is quite capable of arresting any European or any number of them, and holding such as hostages as security against a fresh attack of surrounding tribes by order of the Moorish Government, and I think it is quite possible that this is the correct view.

It is now ascertained that the number of Jews turned out of the Medina—men, women, and children—amounts to from 700 to 800 souls, all told.

Out of this number there is only one family of Jewish British subjects affected, namely, that of Mr. Moses Pinto, and none of the Christian population residing in the Medina have been interfered with.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. BROOME.

P.S.—Since writing the above the Governor of this town has given Mr. Nairn a soldier to Morocco city, going by way of Shiedma.

G. B.

Inclosure 2 in No. 83.

Kaïd Anflous' Khalifa to Spanish Consul at Mogador.

(Translation.)

Praise be to God alone: nothing endures except His Kingdom.

FROM the slave of his God and the servant of His Majesty, Hamad Anflous to the Corps Consulaire at Mogador.

We are informed that the Governor of Mogador, Bargash, has warned you and the rest of your brethren who reside at the Port of Mogador against your going outside the gates of the town or making any excursions in the environments, as is your custom, saying to you that, "Whosoever of you should go out, I (Anflous) would kill him and rob him of his effects;" notwithstanding, these thoughts never entered our minds, nor did they ever arise. Far be it from us to commit such a vile action, which is only done by abject and despicable people; and our action in removing the Jews who were in the Medina (Moorish town) was only done after consulting him and obtaining his consent. But the benefit (of this action) is evident, and I have no doubt but that you are aware that it is so.

Therefore, whoever has any necessity to go out in the environments of Mogador, let him go out; he may come and go to right and left subject to the regulations between you and our Sultan; and whosoever of you shall lose a "dirhem" (ounce) I will pay him two. Only as a Government Kaïd, and our country is quiet, I only brought him (Bargash) back from his transgression of the laws of the Shraa, from us, from you, or from the Jews (*lit.*) (? our law, yours, and the Jewish law). For you are aware that prying leads to the destruction of the Faith.

Finished, 22 Rajab, 1324.

[34515] No. 84.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received October 13.)

(No. 184.)

Sir, *Tangier, October 5, 1906.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 162 of the 8th ultimo, I have the honour to report that the French Chargé d'Affaires informs me that in view of the various applications made to foreign firms for a loan the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas had made a communication to the Moorish Government, in the name of the Syndicate of banks it represents, reminding them of their preferential rights to any loan the Moorish Government may desire to raise before the establishment of the State Bank. The French Legation had forwarded this communication to the Moorish Government supporting the claim, and had received a satisfactory reply recognizing the rights of the Syndicate and asking for a loan of 600,000*l.*

The French Government, however, considers it inadvisable that so large a sum be advanced to the Makhzen before its expenditure can be controlled. An offer has accordingly been made of a loan of 150,000*l.* to be paid by instalments, thus meeting the necessities of the Makhzen until the establishment of the State Bank.

In the meantime Messrs. Mendelssohn are pressing their claim to a half-share in any loan the Syndicate may make, and their claim receives the support of the German Government. The French Government, however, maintain that either the loan must be divided *pro rata* between all the banks who are to form the State Bank or else the Syndicate will make the loan and transfer it to the State Bank if desired.

Count Saint-Aulaire observed that it is possible the Germans may arrange a loan with the Moorish Government, evading the Syndicate's preferential rights by granting a larger sum or accepting easier terms than the Syndicate can agree to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[34518] No. 85.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received October 13.)

(No. 187. Confidential.)

Sir, *Tangier, October 6, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith translation of a letter addressed by Sid Torres to the Italian Minister, M. Malmusi, as doyen of the Diplomatic Body, stating that the Amin Sid Hadj Mohamed-el-Mokri, Sid Mohamed Zeniber, and Sid Abderahman Bennis have been appointed, together with himself, to discuss with the Foreign Representatives the various matters remaining to be decided under the General Act of Algeciras. Sid Torres informs M. Malmusi that these officials have arrived at Tangier, and requests him to acquaint his colleagues and to appoint a day for the first meeting.

M. Malmusi addressed a Circular to the Foreign Representatives inclosing Sid Torres' letter, and inviting an expression of their views in regard thereto. The Belgian Minister, to whom the Circular happened to be first taken, suggested that the doyen should make arrangements for a meeting to be held as requested by Sid Torres.

The French Chargé d'Affaires, who next received the Circular, brought it to me stating that, in his opinion, it was very undesirable that the discussions should be opened at once; it would be preferable that they be postponed until after the ratification of the General Act. He also feared that the Moorish Delegates would endeavour to raise embarrassing questions, such as the interpretations sought to be given to certain Articles.

He explained that, owing to the special and delicate position occupied by France, he wished, if possible, to avoid being the person to suggest the postponement of the discussions, which might give rise to the impression that, whilst the Moorish Government were anxious to hasten the adoption of reforms, the French Government were endeavouring to retard them.

As in conversation with the Italian Minister and with the German Chargé d'Affaires, I had already learnt that they were both of opinion that the discussions could not be usefully opened until after the ratification of the Act and the appointment of the various officials, whose advice in technical matters would be necessary for drafting most of the Regulations, &c., which have been framed, I expressed my willingness to meet Count Sainte-Aulaire's wishes by raising this point. I accordingly, without actually expressing any opinion, made a Minute on the Circular inquiring whether the moment had arrived for opening the discussion, the General Act not having been ratified.

The various Representatives, having expressed their intention of referring to their Governments for instructions, it was unanimously decided, upon the suggestion of the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires, that the doyen should reply to Sid Torres in that sense.

I beg leave to transmit herewith a translation of the letter which is being addressed to Sid Torres by M. Malmusi.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 85.

Sid Torres to Signor Malmusi.

(Traduction.) *Tanger, le 30 Septembre*, 1906.

NOTRE Maître, que Dieu assiste, a désigné pour traiter avec le Corps Diplomatique ami les affaires qui, d'après l'Acte de la Conférence, doivent être traitées à Tanger pour les mettre en dû temps en exécution, le Soussigné, l'Amin Sid Hadj Mohamed-el-Mokri, Sid Mohamed-ben-Ahd-el-Hadi Zeniber, et Sid Abderahman Bennis, lesquels sont, en effet, arrivés à Tanger.

Nous prions donc votre Excellence d'informer de ce qui précède les honorables Représentants et de vous entendre avec eux pour fixer le jour dans lequel commenceront les séances pour traiter les affaires susdites et de nous en référer.

(Signé) MOHAMED-BEN-EL-ARBI TORRES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 85.

Signor Malmusi to Sid Torres.

Tanger, le 6 Octobre, 1906.

J'AI reçu et communiqué aux honorables Représentants des Puissances la lettre que votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser le 30 Septembre dernier.

Le Corps Diplomatique a été très heureux d'apprendre que les Délégués de Sa Majesté Chérifienne sont prêts à traiter avec lui les affaires qui, d'après l'Acte Général d'Algésiras, doivent être réglées de commun accord à Tanger.

Mais quant à la date à fixer au sujet de la première réunion, mes collègues ont pense, et me chargent d'en informer votre Excellence, qu'ils estiment nécessaire de consulter tout d'abord leurs Gouvernements respectifs.

Paix.

(Signé) G. MALMUSI.

[34375] No. 86.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 559. Confidential.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 15, 1906.

THE French Chargé d'Affaires made the following communication on the 10th instant :—

The Spanish Government wished to publish the Franco-Spanish Agreement of September 1905, in the Red Book which they are preparing on the subject of the Algeciras Conference and the affairs of Morocco. M. Bourgeois has, however, instructed the French Ambassador at Madrid to point out the serious inconvenience which would arise from such a publication.

The terms of the Arrangement in question were described in my predecessor's telegram to Mr. Lister, No. 585 of the 30th August, 1905, and in Mr. Cartwright's despatch No. 159, Confidential, of the 4th September, 1905.

I am, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[34879] No. 87.

Lord Acton to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 16.)

(No. 177.)

Sir, *Madrid, October* 12, 1906.

THE Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to-day held his first official reception since the return of the Court from San Sebastian, and I took the opportunity to take leave of his Excellency upon the termination of my duties as Acting Chargé d'Affaires.

In the course of the interview, Señor Gullon informed me that the Commission charged with the duty of dealing with matters connected with the execution of the provisions of the Algeciras Act had now entered upon their labours. As regarded the

Sultan's interpretation of certain articles of the Act, the Spanish Government had decided to reply to these in a negative sense, although it had not yet been decided in what form or through what channel the reply was to be conveyed to the Maghzen.

I observed that I understood that this point was still a subject of conversation between His Majesty's Government and that of the French Republic, and that the verbal communication which I had made to his Excellency on the 5th ultimo of the views of my Government upon the Sultan's proposals was only intended for the information and guidance of His Catholic Majesty's Government.

His Excellency said that the Spanish Government concur with those of England and France in resisting the suggestion of the German Government that the Maghzen's proposals should be referred to the Diplomatic Body at Tangier, in connection with their deliberations for the mode of execution of the provisions of the Protocol.

You will recollect that Señor Gullon had originally proposed the course now advocated by Germany.

Señor Gullon promised to inform His Majesty's Embassy as soon as a decision has been reached by his Government as to the manner in which the Spanish reply is to be communicated to the Moorish Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ACTON.

[34858] No. 88.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 16.)

(No. 384.)

Sir, *Paris, October* 14, 1906.

REPORTS of an anti-French movement along the Moroccan frontier, and especially of a systematic opposition to the policy of commercial penetration from Algeria, have lately occasioned some anxiety in Paris, and it is stated that M. Jonnart, Governor-General of Algeria, will attend one of the forthcoming Cabinet Councils with the view of apprizing the Ministers of the state of things on the Algerian-Moroccan frontier.

It is thought that the present difficulties are largely the result of the recent Moroccan controversy, and that such events as the Emperor of Germany's visit to Tangier, Count Tattenbach's journey to Fez, and the Algeciras Conference have, in various degrees stimulated the Makhzen to disregard its engagements towards France with the idea that foreign support may be reckoned on, should any conflict arise.

"Le Temps" considers that the Makhzen has of late been showing an active enmity to France, and that the moment may soon come when, by the side of the advantages to be reaped from French friendship, must be shown the dangers to the Sultan which may ensue from French resentment.

It is stated that the ill-feeling towards France is especially localized in the country bordering on the Beni-Ounif-Colomb-Bechar Railway, the chief instrument of the French pacific penetration policy. This line, by diverting trade towards Algeria, is interfering with the old caravan trade northwards towards Marakech and Fez, and westwards towards Agadin, and it is feared that the irritation fostered by the officials and local Chiefs who benefited from the former state of things may show itself in further acts of violence. The Chief ("Amel") of Oudjda has, it would appear, given strong grounds for complaint, owing to various harassing measures adopted by him towards French citizens or French protected persons. At Figuig a similar hostility is openly manifested, while at Tafilet a systematic boycott of the market at Bechar is being carried on, and other steps are being taken to stop communications and trade between Algerian and Moroccan territory. It is, moreover, reported that an effervescence of warlike spirit has lately been noticeable around Tafilet, and an organized raid is apprehended in this quarter.

"Le Temps" goes so far as to declare that the Shereefian authorities are directly implicated in the whole of this anti-French movement along the frontier, and calls for strong representations to the Sultan, who should be held responsible for the attitude of his officials.

"L'Echo de Paris," which is much in touch with military circles and frequently represents the views of highly-placed officers, reminds the Government that a strong

policy is necessary at Fez, as France has adversaries who are on the watch to create difficulties for her, and that the security of French possessions in North Africa depends upon the vigilance shown in upholding French rights.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[35080] No. 89.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 17.)

(No. 50.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 17, 1906.

REPORTS have been made by the French, German, and Spanish Consuls at Dar-al-Baida to their Legations that the natives in the neighbouring districts are being incited by a Shereef against the Christians, and that it is feared an attack may be made on the town. They also report that they made representations on the subject to the Governor of the town. Mr. Drummond Hay informs me that he believes the movement is not really anti-Christian, but directed more against the Sultan and in favour of Moulai Hafeed, Viceroy of Morocco City. He has joined his colleagues in their representations to the Governor.

I have joined with my colleagues in suggesting to Sid Torres that reinforcements should be sent, as a measure of precaution, to Dar-al-Baida, where there are only a few troops.

[35663] No. 90.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 129.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 19, 1906.

THE French Ambassador having asked me to support the request of his Government to the Spanish Government not to publish the Franco-Spanish Agreement of 1905, I told the Spanish Ambassador to-day that, in my opinion, it would be very undesirable to publish now Agreements which were made prior to the Conference at Algeciras. The General Act of that Conference had been published, and it would be a pity to raise any new question, or anything which contemplated the contingency of a break-up in Morocco, the general policy being to maintain the *status quo* if possible.

The Ambassador has since informed me that the Spanish Government did not intend to publish anything of this nature.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[35285] No. 91.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 20.)

(No. 189. Confidential.)
Sir, *Tangier, October* 12, 1906.

THE French Chargé d'Affaires has informed me confidentially that he believes that the Netherlands propose to establish a Legation at Tangier, though he is not certain whether a decision has already been actually come to in the matter, or whether it is still under consideration. It appears that the information was derived from the Councillor of the Dutch Legation at Berlin, who mentioned to a member of the French Embassy that he had been selected for the post.

The Netherlands have for some years been represented in this country by the German Legation, and, as they have no interests here, political or commercial, it is difficult to understand their object in desiring to appoint a Minister at Tangier, if, indeed, the information which has reached the French Legation is correct.

Count Sainte-Aulaire told me that he feared this action was taken at the instigation of Germany, who hoped thereby to obtain another vote on her side at the discussions of the foreign Representatives.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[35286] No. 92.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 20.)

(No. 190.)
Sir, *Tangier, October* 12, 1906.

THE French Chargé d'Affaires mentioned to me to-day that the action of the people of Tafilet is causing serious trouble to the Algerian authorities. He did not attach undue importance to the talk of a "Jehad," or holy war, that is current in the south, nor did he think that any force would be thrown against the French troops in those regions which they would not be able to deal with, but a serious situation undoubtedly existed, and the French Legation had made strong representations on the subject at Fez, which, however, had remained unanswered.

Count Sainte-Aulaire explained that the railway had now been pushed to a point not very distant from Tafilet, and a considerable trade had sprung up, a number of Tafilet merchants and others having established themselves near the railhead for the purposes of trade. The Tafilet authorities and people had, however, cut off all communication with the French, and no goods whatever were allowed to reach them. In addition to this, the property at Tafilet of all those of the Doui Menea tribe and others remaining with the French has been seized, and these people naturally look to the French to protect them. They must thus either undertake military operations on a large scale or else suffer a serious loss of prestige.

Count Sainte-Aulaire considered that the Sultan could, if he desired, impose his will on the Tafilet people and put an end to this state of affairs, as he has means of bringing pressure to bear on them, either through the numerous Tafilet Shereefs residing at Fez and in great measure dependent on His Majesty, or by cutting off the contributions sent regularly by the Court to Tafilet. The French Legation had therefore addressed a letter to the Court some time since pointing out that the action taken at Tafilet was a distinct breach of the existing Agreements, and calling upon the Moorish Government to put a stop to it at once, as otherwise, if the Sultan has no authority in those regions, the French Government will have to take steps to deal with the matter themselves.

Count Sainte-Aulaire, however, admitted that an expedition to Tafilet would have to be on a large scale and would entail great expense, and that the Legation and the French Government are opposed to its being undertaken, though the military party in Algeria would be glad enough were it decided upon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. E. WHITE.

[35288] No. 93.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 20.)

(No. 192.)
Sir, *Tangier, October* 13, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 179 of the 29th ultimo, reporting a raid on the premises of a slave-dealer and the release of a number of free-born women in his possession, I have the honour to report that the German Chargé d'Affaires informs me that there is no truth in the report that the slave-dealer in question held a certificate of employment issued by the German Legation. It was a fact that an application for such a certificate on his behalf had been made to the Legation by a German firm some time ago, but it had been refused precisely on the grounds that the Moor in question was said to be engaged in the Slave Trade. Baron von Langwerth has also assured me that the Acting German Consul at Fez took no action whatever to shield the slave-dealer, nor had he made any claim whatever in connection with the matter, the reports to that effect which had appeared in the press being without foundation.

I am informed that the premises of one of the two other slave-dealers referred to in my above-mentioned despatch have also been searched, four free-born women being found there and released. The slave-dealer had had private notice of the action to be taken, and had been able to hide the other women illegally detained.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[35289] No. 94.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 20.)

(No. 193.)
Sir, *Tangier, October* 13, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 148 of the 18th August, I have the honour to report that the Moorish Government have made an application to the leading native merchants at Fez to subscribe half the amount required for the Moorish share of the capital of the State Bank, it being the intention of the Sultan and Makhzen to subscribe the remaining moiety.

I understand that the merchants have favourably received the application of the Makhzen and that they are willing to subscribe; it is not certain, however, that the whole amount required will be forthcoming.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[35290 No. 95.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 20.)

(No. 194.)
Sir, *Tangier, October* 13, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 174 of the 22nd ultimo, I have the honour to report that the German Mission entered Fez on the 2nd instant, Dr. Rosen and all his staff riding into the town in full uniform. They were received on arrival with the usual ceremony.

Dr. Rosen was received by the Sultan in public audience on the 4th instant, the speeches exchanged on that occasion being very cordial. The Sultan's speech was delivered by His Majesty in person, instead of being read by the Vizier for Foreign Affairs as usual.

Two days later the German Minister was received by the Sultan in private audience, and delivered the presents he had brought for His Majesty, consisting of a small wireless telegraph apparatus, a handsome sword, a new pattern rifle, &c.

I understand that Dr. Rosen has created a very favourable impression upon the Sultan and Viziers, who are much pleased at the friendly language he has held. Any advice he may tender will doubtless have much weight both with the Sultan and with the Court officials generally.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[35329] No. 96.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 20.)

(No. 181. Confidential.)
Sir, *Madrid, October* 17, 1906.

THE French Ambassador informed me this morning that he had sent in yesterday an urgent note to the Spanish Government, requesting that no further time might be lost in completing the necessary arrangements for the institution of the French and Spanish police in certain coast towns of Morocco, as settled at the Algeciras Conference. M. Cambon has repeatedly called the attention of the Spanish Government to this matter of late, and has always received the answer that Señor Gullon, Minister for Foreign Affairs, is too much occupied during the weeks preceding the opening of the Cortes to give much personal attention to the question, which has been referred to a gentleman in one of the other Ministries. M. Cambon states that this gentleman is not well chosen for the task in hand, and that no progress is being made. His Excellency takes, in general, a despondent view of affairs in Morocco, and thinks that the fabric reared by the Conference shows, as yet, few signs of permanence.

As regards the agitation reported from the frontier districts between Algeria and Morocco, M. Cambon is in favour of energetic action being taken by France to restore order, and to make it plain to the Sultan of Morocco that such disturbances of the peace on the borderland can no longer be tolerated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[35690] No. 97.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 22.)

(No. 51.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 22, 1906.

A SMALL body of mountaineers, who are believed to be friends of Raisuli, attacked the barracks at Arzila the night before last and seized the arms of the soldiers, whom they put to flight. The town is in their hands. They have a grudge against certain persons, and their object is probably to seize them. They declare that they will not harm the townspeople. Sid Torres is afraid that the mountaineers will kill the principal inhabitants if he sends troops to relieve the town, but he has written to Raisuli, requesting him to restore order.

There is, I believe, only one British subject at Arzila—a missionary lady.

[35810] No. 98.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 23.)

(No. 52.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 23, 1906.

IN my telegram No. 51 of yesterday, I had the honour to inform you that Arzila had been captured by a band of mountaineers.

The latest reports state that though the Governor has succeeded in escaping, the mountaineers will not allow any one to leave the town. They have also pillaged some stores.

The missionary lady writes that she has no fear for herself.

It might endanger the safety of Europeans and Jews to send troops by land or sea, but Cid Torres hopes to obtain their liberation through Raisuli.

The Consular Agent considers the situation critical.

[35903] No. 99.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 24.)

(No. 53.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 24, 1906.

THE doyen of the Diplomatic Body has been informed by Sid Torres that he is convinced that Raisuli connived at the attack on Arzila. He consented to the departure of the Governor of the town, but not to that of the Europeans and Jews. Sid Torres has hopes of obtaining permission for the departure of the latter also, and is in communication with Raisuli on the matter.

The doyen was also informed by Torres that he does not dare to send any troops from Tangier, but, on the contrary, has had further forces brought into the town, as he fears Raisuli planned the attack on Arzila to draw away troops from Tangier in order to effect a *coup* here.

The French Chargé d'Affaires tells me that he is reporting the situation to his Government, and that a cruiser is expected here shortly, but he is not sure whether his Government may deem it necessary to dispatch another vessel.

[35969] No. 100.

Señor de Villa-Urrutia to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 25.)

(Translation.)
Your Excellency, *Spanish Embassy* (*Undated*).

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have been instructed to bring to your knowledge that, in a note dated the 11th July to the Spanish Minister at Tangier, the Delegate of the Sultan communicated, in conformity with Article LVI of the General Act of Algeciras, the decision of His Shereefian Majesty to participate in subscribing to the capital of the State Bank of Morocco, and his offer to publish subsequently a list of the holders of the shares allotted to Morocco and the names of the High Commissioner and his assistant charged with the inspection of the operations of the Bank.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DE VILLA-URRUTIA.

[36006] No. 101.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 26.)

(No. 399. Confidential.)
Sir, *Paris, October* 23, 1906.

I HAD the honour to report to you, in my despatch No. 384 of the 14th instant, that there was some anxiety in Paris in regard to the state of affairs on the Algerian-Moroccan frontier.

I have reason to believe that the matter has been purposely exaggerated in certain quarters in order to strengthen the hands of those who desire to see a more aggressive policy adopted towards the Makhzen than that which M. Bourgeois was inclined to sanction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[36093] No. 102.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 26.)

(No. 54.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 26, 1906.

DISTURBANCES at Arzila.

A small Spanish cruiser has arrived here, but she will not proceed to Arzila.

I am informed by Cid Torres that Raisuli has left for Arzila with a force to restore order. Raisuli will allow all those who wish to depart to do so.

See my telegram No. 53 of the 24th instant.

[36425] No. 103.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir B. Boothby.**

(No. 125.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 26, 1906.

I TOLD the Austrian Ambassador to-day that I very strongly deprecated the proposed publication of a Blue Book in Austria about the Morocco Conference and what preceded it. Since the Conference reached a peaceful conclusion feeling about Morocco had been quiescent, but it might be revived at any time, and it would certainly be revived by the publication of the controversial history of the Conference.

Count Mensdorff said that his Government had been reproached by the Delegations for not publishing enough information about foreign affairs, and they had therefore promised these papers.

* Also to Sir F. Bertie, No. 596.

I said I thought they might choose some other subjects for publication rather than that of Morocco—Macedonia, for instance.

Count Mensdorff replied that their Delegate at Algeciras, Count Welsersheimb, had taken a part which contributed towards a settlement, and he supposed his Government were desirous of bringing this out.

I said it was undoubtedly true that the Austrian proposals at the end had contributed materially to a peaceful settlement, but that made it the greater pity that the benefit which had arisen from their action should now be cancelled by the publication of these controversial papers. I thought no other country had published papers relating to the Conference, not even France or Germany, who took such active parts in connection with the Conference. If I were asked in Parliament for papers about the Conference, I should certainly reply that there had been a great deal of controversy during the Conference and after it, but that, as the Conference had ended in a peaceful settlement, it would be undesirable to revive ill-feeling by publishing controversial matter. But if the Austrian Government published a Blue Book, I should not be able to give this answer; I should be obliged to publish papers. Beyond doubt, it was true that we had supported France strongly at the Conference, and would support her again if the question of Morocco was reopened. If I was obliged to publish papers this would be brought out very emphatically, and would be certain to lead to a renewal of the controversy in the British, French, and German press. If the question of Morocco had to be reopened at the present time, I should consider it desirable to let the whole history be known, and to emphasize our attitude. But I saw no necessity for reopening the question just now. I thought it was a pity to make needless trouble, and I was sure the question would be reopened if the Austrian Government published the papers they proposed.

Count Mensdorff said he quite understood my point of view, and would make it known to his Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[36136] No. 104.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 27.)

(No. 195.)
Sir, *Tangier, October* 20, 1906.

THE German Chargé d'Affaires called upon me a few days ago, and informed me that he had received serious news from Dar-al-Baida, the German Consul at that place having reported that a Shereef was preaching the holy war amongst the tribes in that neighbourhood and inciting the people to attack the Christians. The Consul had forwarded to him copies of letters received by German merchants at Dar-al-Baida from their native employés in the district in question warning them of the proposed attack, which, it was said, would not be delivered until a sufficient number of men had been first gradually introduced into the town to open the gates to the assailants when the attack was made.

Baron von Langwerth said that the garrison at Dar-al-Baida was very insufficient, and that the Governor was totally lacking in energy, as shown at the time of the disturbances created by Ma-el-Ayneen; he had therefore made representations to both Sid Torres and Sid Mokri urging that reinforcements be sent to Dar-al-Baida at once; he had also written to Dr. Rosen suggesting that he recommend the Sultan to dismiss the Governor of Dar-al-Baida and appoint a more capable man in his place.

Baron von Langwerth had already spoken on the subject to the Spanish Minister and to the French Chargé d'Affaires, who had both received similar reports from their Consuls, and had promised to support his suggestion to send troops to Dar-al-Baida; he asked me whether I would be disposed to associate myself with their action.

I informed Baron von Langwerth that I had received a despatch on the subject from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida, but that he was disposed to regard the movement as anti-dynastic rather than anti-Christian, and did not appear to regard the situation as dangerous. I read to him portions of Mr. Drummond Hay's despatch, an extract from which I beg leave to transmit herewith. In view, however, of the reports received by the French, German, and Spanish Representatives, and as a measure of precaution I said I would be happy to associate myself with their action.

I accordingly directed the Arabic Scribe of this Legation to call upon Sid Torres,

and communicate to him unofficially the reports that had reached Tangier, suggesting that it would be desirable to reinforce the garrison at Dar-al-Baida, which, I understood, was very weak.

Sid Torres replied that he was already informed of the matter, and acquainted with the Shereef Wazzari, and that there was no cause whatever for alarm. The garrison at Dar-al-Baida was quite sufficient to resist any attack, and he could not send troops from Tangier without special instructions.

I have since spoken to the Spanish Minister and to the French Chargé d'Affaires on the subject. The reports received by them agree with that of the German Consul at Dar-al-Baida in describing the movement as anti-Christian; they do not, however, appear to regard the matter in so serious a light as does the German Chargé d'Affaires. Baron von Langwerth also informed me this morning that he had received a further despatch from his Consul at Dar-al-Baida, who regards the situation as improved, as it was reported that the tribes immediately outside that town had refused to join in the movement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 104.

Consul Drummond Hay to Mr. White.

(No. 188. Confidential.)
(Extract.) *Dar-al-Baida, October* 15, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that during the course of a conversation with my French colleague, the latter informed me that there was in the district a certain Shereef, who was touring through the various tribes of the Showia, inciting the natives to combine against the Christians, and, in fact, preaching a Jehad in so many words. He was actually at M'zab.

M. Malpertius had, upon receipt of the information, sent out emissaries, who had returned with full confirmation of the report.

He came to me this morning and proposed, in conjunction with the German Consul, myself and the Spanish Consul, to make representations to the Governor to secure the safety of the town by causing the expulsion of all vagrants and irresponsible persons from the town. To this proposal I consented, and have sent my dragoman to the Governor with a similar request.

Meanwhile I had caused inquiries to be made about this matter, and have now ascertained from thoroughly trustworthy and well-informed sources the truth about this person.

It appears that his name is El Wazzari, of Oolad Saïd, at which place there is a Zawia. He is an educated man of the Ulema class, and of fairly liberal views for a Moor.

He has already visited Marakesh, and had interviews with the tribes of Rahamna, Ducala, Beni Miskin, Ordigha, and Mzamza, and is now at M'zab.

These tribes, it is reported, have agreed to unite to proclaim Moolai Hafeed Sultan in place of Moolai Abd-el-Azeez, whom all accuse of having sold their land to the French.

There is no anti-Christian feeling about, as far as I can ascertain, but there is a bitter and growing anti-French feeling. El Wazzari is too liberal minded and too sagacious a man to proclaim a Jehad or anti-Christian rising, as all the tribes of the Showia recognize that this port and its European and Jewish population constitutes their only outlet for produce and their livelihood.

It has been suggested to me that if some hundreds of copies of the Arabic version of the Algeciras Protocole were printed and circulated amongst the tribes much of the misrepresentation of influenced political agitators might be averted.

[36240] No. 105.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 28.)

(No. 55.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 28, 1906.

THE Arzila people, on the night of the 26th October, instigated by a Shereef, rose against the mountaineers, who fled after two hours' fighting, leaving five dead and four prisoners, amongst them the ringleader.

Shortly afterwards Raisuli arrived and took possession of the town.

The missionary lady was allowed to proceed to Laraiche on the 22nd, and yesterday the British Consular Agent and three Jewish families left in a Moorish steamer, arriving here during the night.

[36424] No. 106.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 29.)

(No. 408.)
Sir, *Paris, October* 28, 1906.

IT is announced that, as a result of a conference yesterday morning between the President of the Council and the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and of Marine, instructions were despatched by telegraph to Toulon for the French cruiser "Jeanne d'Arc" to proceed to Tangier without delay.

The reason for this decision appears to be the necessity felt by the French Government of being prepared for possible disturbances in the towns on the coast, the recent incident at Arzila having demonstrated the possibility of their occurring in a serious form.

It is further announced that instructions have been sent to the Governor-General of Algeria to take measures on the Algerian-Moroccan frontier to repress in an exemplary manner any attempts which may be made to disturb order or to violate Algerian territory, but to abstain from any offensive movement.

I had the honour in my despatch No. 399, Confidential, of the 23rd instant to inform you that apparently the state of affairs on the frontier and around Tafilalet was being purposely exaggerated in some quarters here. The new Minister for Foreign Affairs yesterday stated, in an interview with a representative of "Le Petit Parisien" on this subject: "Dites bien aussi, puisque nous sommes sur ce chapitre, qu'on a tort de grossir l'affaire de Tafilalet. N'exagérons rien. Si nous sommes attaqués, nous nous défendrons, et c'est tout."

He also characterized the despatch of the "Jeanne d'Arc" as a simple measure of precaution, similar to that already taken a few days before by Spain in view of the state of anarchy which was observable in Morocco. There was no reason, his Excellency added, to apprehend difficulties for France, for her position was made clear by Conventions and by an International Act, which would be scrupulously and loyally adhered to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[36551] No. 107.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 29.)

(No. 56.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 29, 1906.

DISCUSSION of questions arising out of Algeciras Act.

The German Government have authorized German Chargé d'Affaires to commence the discussions without waiting for ratification of General Act, and have instructed him to inform doyen of Diplomatic Body and Cid Torres accordingly.

[36552] No. 108.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received October* 29.)

(No. 57.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 29, 1906.

LOAN to Moorish Government.

German Chargé d'Affaires states that his Government admit that the French have preferential rights in the matter. He denies the report which has appeared in the press that the German Minister has negotiated a loan at Fez.

[36663] No. 109.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received October 30.)

(No. 58.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October 30, 1906.*

MY telegram No. 57 of yesterday.

The French have negotiated a fresh loan with the Moorish Government.

[36664] No. 110.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received October 30.)

(No. 59.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October 30, 1906.*

PUBLIC insecurity in Tangier district.

A petition is, I am informed privately, being drawn up by British subjects here, asking for protection in view of danger of situation.

French Government have sent a large cruiser, which is now here.

[37059] No. 111.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir E. Goschen.

(No. 126.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November 1, 1906.*

COUNT MENSDORFF told me to-day that he had communicated to his Government my views with reference to the publication of a Red Book about the Algeciras Conference. He was now instructed to inform me that Baron d'Aehrenthal was placed in a very embarrassing position with regard to the proposed publication, because Count Goluchowski had promised the Delegations that there should be a publication explaining the affairs of Morocco in connection with Algeciras. But Baron d'Aehrenthal was most anxious to meet in a friendly spirit the first request I had made to him. He understood my objections, and was therefore going to omit the controversial passages.

I thanked Count Mensdorff, and said I was very sorry any request I had made should be embarrassing. I very much appreciated the spirit in which this request had been met. If papers had to be published, of course the part played by the Austrian Delegate could not give rise to controversy, but to publish all the troubles which led up to that part would undoubtedly rekindle the flames.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[37001] No. 112.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 3.)

(No. 196. Confidential.)
Sir, *Tangier, October 26, 1906.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 190 of the 12th instant, I have the honour to report that the French Chargé d'Affaires informs me that he has received a letter from Cid Torres telling him that the Sultan has sent an official to Tafilelt with orders to put a stop to the anti-French movement in that district. The French Consul at Fez has also reported that His Shereefian Majesty has sent an emissary to Tafilelt with money for distribution amongst the Shereefs to induce them to desist from any hostile action against the French.

Count Saint-Aulaire is of opinion that the Sultan has become alarmed at the position of affairs in the south, which, though probably not instigated from Fez, was at first regarded with complaisance at the Court. His Majesty is beginning to realize the consequences that would follow a serious attack upon the French led by the Tafilelt Shereefs, and is anxious to avoid the danger. It remains to be seen, however, whether things have not already gone too far, and whether the action taken by the Sultan at this late hour will be able to quiet the feeling which has been aroused.

It is, I think, very probable that the Sultan at one of the several lengthy

private conversations he has had with the German Minister may have consulted him on the subject, and Dr. Rosen would doubtless have pointed out the danger of the situation and have advised His Majesty to take all possible steps to prevent any attack on the French.

Count Saint-Aulaire informed me very confidentially that a short time since he addressed a note to the Shereefian Court with serious complaints against the Governor of Oujdah, whose dismissal he had demanded. This official has persistently refused to attend to any of the claims or complaints presented to him by the Algerian authorities, and has shown himself quite unsuited for the post. He had, moreover, recently violated Algerian territory, sending an armed force across the frontier, a proceeding which might lead to serious trouble, and one which the French authorities cannot tolerate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[37004] No. 113.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 3.)

(No. 199.)
Sir, *Tangier, October 28, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to report that at about 10·30 P.M. on the night of the 20th instant a band of about forty mountaineers and others, some of whom had quietly entered the town by day and the rest had scaled the walls in the night, attacked the soldiers in the barracks at Arzila, killing an officer and one soldier, and putting the rest to flight, seizing their arms and ammunition.

Having thus become masters of the town these men obtained the keys of the gates and of the prison, from which they released some of their friends. They were led by a man of Arzila named Berian, who was one of the murderers of the former Governor Khalkhali and had then fled, and has since resided principally with Raisuli, with whom he was just before he set out on this exploit. The other leader was a man named Widan of the mountain tribe of Beni Aros, but frequently residing at Arzila, where he was known as a spy of Raisuli.

On the following day these men sent a public crier round the town assuring the inhabitants that they had nothing to fear, and could open their shops and go about their business as usual. This assurance was not, however, carried out, as the stores of a Spanish-protected Jew were pillaged and goods were demanded without payment from other shops, one Jew, who was imprudent enough to demand payment for a loaf of sugar which a mountaineer had taken, receiving a box on the ears. The Jews, however, though insulted and threatened, were not otherwise actually ill-treated.

News of these events reached me late on Sunday night, the 21st instant, but it was only the following day that I learnt that there was a British subject at Arzila. Mr. Edward Strauss, M.P., called upon me and informed me that he had been encamped just outside the walls of Arzila on the night of the 20th. The Governor of the town and the British Consular Agent had urged him to camp inside the walls for greater safety, but, happily for himself, he had preferred remaining outside with a guard of seventeen soldiers sent by the Governor. The fight had occurred at the spot inside the town where he had been invited to camp. Mr. Strauss informed me that Miss Jennings, a missionary lady who generally resides at Laraiche, but occasionally visits Arzila, was at the latter place.

I subsequently received a letter from Miss Jennings telling me that she was in no fear for herself, and I have this morning learnt that she was permitted to leave on the 22nd for Laraiche, where she arrived safely.

I called upon Sid Benasser Ghannam, Sid Torres being ill at the time, and informed him of Miss Jennings' presence at Arzila, impressing upon him the urgent necessity of taking immediate steps for restoring order in that place, and allowing all who wished to leave in safety.

Sid Ghannam was evidently much perturbed at the news from Arzila. He said he had little doubt that the whole incident had been planned by Raisuli. They were in communication with that official, and hoped to obtain the liberation of the people at Arzila, and, at my suggestion, he promised to send a steamer to Arzila to bring them to Tangier.

As further news arrived, it became quite clear that Raisuli had arranged this coup with a view of obtaining the Governorship of Arzila district for himself. He has, it

seems, on various occasions demanded this of the Court, but has always been refused. The Governor of Arzila has under his jurisdiction the tribes of Sahel, Amar, B'dawa, and Beni Ghorfet, and if Raisuli can obtain these his power would be greatly increased. The Khlot tribe, nominally under Alcazar, are already under his influence, and he evidently has an ambitious scheme to eventually govern a very large district.

A meeting of the foreign Representatives was held on the morning of the 24th instant to discuss the situation. The Italian Minister informed us that Sid Torres had stated that he had not yet received a reply from Raisuli, but still hoped for a satisfactory one. He was, however, contemplating sending a mixed force of cavalry, infantry and artillery to Arzila by land to restore order.

When, however, M. Malmusi subsequently called upon Sid Torres in the name of the Diplomatic Body to impress upon him the gravity of the situation, and the necessity of immediately adopting proper measures, his Excellency replied that he had abandoned the intention of sending troops, as that would only provoke the rebels to acts of violence against foreigners and Jews at Arzila, and, moreover, it would not be prudent to reduce the garrison at Tangier, which was required for the protection of foreigners residing outside the town. He declared that Raisuli was the author of the attack on Arzila, and hinted that it would be merely playing into his hands to send troops away from here, when a coup might be effected at Tangier. He had brought in additional cavalry, and all the troops were required here. His Excellency added that he was still in correspondence with Raisuli, and though he had hitherto only consented to the Governor of Arzila leaving the place, he hoped to obtain from him the liberation of the foreigners and Jews.

On the morning of the 26th instant, Sid Torres informed me that Raisuli had marched with a strong force to relieve Arzila, and yesterday evening a steamer, which Sid Torres had sent to that place, returned with the British Consular Agent, Mr. Bensheton, who also represents several other nations, and three other families.

Mr. Bensheton called upon me this morning, and informed me of Miss Jennings' departure from Arzila. He stated that the relief of that place had really been effected by a Shereef, named Ghailan, on the night of the 26th. It appears that Ghailan, who resides at Arzila, where he is much respected, had been absent, and returned to that town on the 26th, when he was insulted and deprived of his gun. He therefore raised the population who attacked Berian and his party. Fighting went on in the town from 5 P.M. to 7 P.M. to the terror of the Jews, when victory remained with Ghailan. Berian himself was taken prisoner with three of his men, Widan escaped wounded, and the others fled, leaving five of their number dead. On Ghailan's side only two were killed. Order was at once restored in the town and guards posted.

Raisuli had arrived within about 8 miles of Arzila that afternoon, and announced his entry into the town for next morning. On hearing, however, of the fighting he proceeded at once to the town, arriving there at about 8 P.M. He was accompanied by about 500 well-armed men, and at once assumed the Government.

Next morning Raisuli sent for Mr. Bensheton, and told him he had orders from Sid Torres to allow him to depart, but that he could remain in perfect safety.

Mr. Bensheton, however, elected to leave with his family.

The Cadi of Arzila, who was present, then suggested that a Petition should be got up amongst the inhabitants of Arzila, asking that Raisuli should be appointed Governor. As Raisuli was present Mr. Bensheton thought it prudent to acquiesce in this suggestion.

The Shereef Ghailan and his party wished to kill Berian or send him prisoner to Tangier, but to this Raisuli would not consent, saying he must remain as his prisoner. He will doubtless shortly release him or allow him to escape, for there can be no doubt he was merely acting under the orders of Raisuli. So far this plot has succeeded, and Raisuli is in possession of Arzila on the invitation of the Moorish authorities with a strong force under his orders, for I understand that a strong contingent of the Beni M'sowar tribe has since joined him. Opinions differ as to whether he intends to take up his residence at Arzila, or merely to place his brother or one of his faithful adherents as his deputy there.

It remains to be seen what action the Sultan will take. It is probable that His Majesty will either temporize or confirm Raisuli in the appointment, as His Majesty, I understand, does not wish that any attack be made upon him until the German and American Missions are safe back in Tangier.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[37005] No. 114.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 3.)

(No. 20. Commercial.)

Sir, *Tangier, October 26, 1906.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 17, Commercial, of the 4th instant, and to your despatch No. 22, Commercial, of the 18th instant, regarding a proposal for obtaining from the Moorish Government a concession for laying certain telegraph cables, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a private letter I received from the German Minister, now at Fez, assuring me that the German Government strictly adhere to the principle of "adjudication" as stipulated in the Algeciras Act, and that he will not ask the Sultan for "any concession falling under the head of 'adjudication' according to the existing international Agreements."

It is possible that there exist different views as to what concessions fall under this head.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 114.

Dr. Rosen to Mr. White.

Dear Mr. White, *Fez, October 10, 1906.*

BARON LANGWERTH has written to me about a conversation he had with you regarding the plan of some future telegraph lines drawn up by German and English firms. I am very sorry there has been some doubt whether it was intended to obtain a concession for this work direct from the Moorish Government and before the Committee for "adjudication" has been instituted, or whether the plan was meant to be laid before the latter. Baron Langwerth has, I am sure, dispelled any doubt that might still have subsisted in this matter by telling you that the German Government strictly adheres to the principle of "adjudication," to which it considers itself morally bound even before the ratification of the Algeciras Act.

It is therefore out of the question that I should at the present moment ask the Sultan for this or any other concession falling under the head of "adjudication" according to the existing international Agreements.

Excuse my troubling you with this matter, but I hope my writing to you may contribute to dispel a doubt which may have been caused unintentionally by a not quite clear conception by a Berlin firm of the international and political side public works in Morocco have assumed.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) F. ROSEN.

[37007] No. 115.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 3.)

(No. 15. Consular.)

Sir, *Tangier, October 28, 1906.*

AS directed in your despatches No. 5, Consular, of the 30th April, and No. 14, Consular, of the 8th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith a Table,* showing the cases dealt with by His Majesty's Consular Court for Morocco under "The Morocco Order in Council, 1889," during the years 1890–1905.

It will be observed that the number of cases brought into Court are small, Consular officers being generally able to bring about an amicable settlement between the parties out of Court. It is thus as a rule only the more difficult cases that have to be heard and determined by the Court; therefore the work done by the Court is in reality heavier than would appear at first sight, many of the cases being complicated and occupying several days in the hearing. I may mention that both the present and the preceding Attorney-General have expressed the opinion that cases before this

* Not printed.

Court upon which they have been consulted have been particularly complicated and difficult to deal with, and considered it would have been better if the procedure could have been simplified, considering that the Judges of the Court are not professional lawyers. This would, however, involve practically recasting the whole Order in Council and Rules thereunder.

I beg leave to transmit herewith a Memorandum containing observations in regard to some of the Articles in the Order in Council which it appears to me desirable to amend. It must be borne in mind that, as stated above, the Consular officers in Morocco have no legal training, and that it is desirable to give them as much assistance as possible by wording the Article so clearly that there can be no misunderstanding.

The drafting of the new Order in Council will doubtless be undertaken in England, and I understand that it is only in regard to amendments that may be required other than those to bring it into harmony with the Algeciras Act that I am required to express an opinion. For convenience of reference, however, I venture to transmit a short Memorandum, calling attention to the Articles in the Algeciras Act to which, it appears to me, provision will have to be made in the Order in Council.

I beg to express my regret that, owing to pressure of other work, this Report has been delayed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 115.

Memorandum of suggested Amendments in "The Morocco Order in Council, 1889."

Article 4 (vii).—SEVERAL of the Vice-Consuls under the superintending Consuls now hold Commissions; the word "uncommissioned" might therefore be omitted before "Consular officer" at the end of this sub-section, or else the words "commissioned or" might be inserted before the word "uncommissioned."

Article 4 (xiii).—Doubt has arisen as to the exact interpretation to be given to this definition; it might therefore be advantageous to make it somewhat clearer. For instance, do rooms at an hotel hired for several months, or does a furnished villa hired for the winter, constitute a fixed place of abode?

Articles 11 (i) *and* 40.—Articles 11 (i) and 40 provide for a Judge of the Supreme Court of Gibraltar holding a trial in Morocco. In many cases it is very desirable in the interests of justice that the trial should be held in Morocco, and not with a jury at Gibraltar. Especially is this the case when the offences charged were committed against the Moorish Government, or where the only available witnesses are Moors, as it has been found that it is almost impossible to obtain a conviction in such cases from a Gibraltar jury. In one case, where the offence charged was false coining, and where the evidence was absolutely conclusive, the accused being caught practically red-handed, with the dies in his pocket, and all the machinery, metal, &c., on the premises, the case had to be tried three times before a conviction was obtained, it having been found impossible to get the first two juries to agree. A recent case in point was that of the master of a Gibraltar sailing-vessel caught smuggling off the Moorish coast and charged under Article 107 of the Order in Council. The master not returning to Morocco, the writ was served on him in Gibraltar, and the Attorney-General applied for the trial to take place in Morocco, but counsel for the defence objected, and the Chief Justice ordered that the trial be held at Gibraltar, being unwilling to deprive the defendant of a trial by jury. The Attorney-General consequently advised the abandonment of the case, as he was confident that a Gibraltar jury would not convict.

I do not know whether it would be possible to insert any provision in the Order in Council making it easier for the Judge to order trial in Morocco.

Article 39.—The reference should, I presume, be altered to "The Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890." It would perhaps be as well that words be added in this Article and in others where special Acts are referred to in order to make applicable any future Acts that may amend or be substituted for those Acts. Possibly a separate Article could be introduced containing a general provision to this effect.

Article 78.—Since the Order in Council was passed, Gibraltar has brought in a new Bankruptcy Law, which is practically identical with the English Law. The procedure under this Law is too cumbersome for Morocco, where such bankruptcies as

do occur are nearly always for very small amounts. A clause might be added providing for some very simple procedure to be drawn up by Rules or otherwise to be applicable where the total amount of the liabilities does not exceed, say, 100*l.*

Article 86.—It is desirable to extend the provisions of this Article to the property of a resident British subject dying in Morocco where there are no next of kin or executor present to take charge of the property. Article 85 provides for the property of a resident British subject dying intestate being vested in the Consul-General; but it is desirable that in any case, whether the deceased leave a will or not, the *Court* should have a discretionary power to take steps for the security of the property by removing and storing it, or, if necessary, when it is of a perishable nature, selling it.

Article 91.—Doubt has arisen whether the limit of 100*l.* here mentioned is intended to refer to the gross or the net value of the estate, whether to personalty only or also to the realty.

The wording might be altered to make the intention quite clear.

Article 92.—As postal communications in Morocco are slow and uncertain, and it may in some cases take a fortnight for the Court at some places to receive a reply from the Consul-General, it would, I think, be convenient to allow the Court to fix the amount of the security and of the sum to defray the expense of making up and transmitting the record, either party having the right of appeal to the Consul-General in regard to the amount fixed. Time would thus be saved, as in most cases I think the parties would accept the amount fixed by the Court.

Article 94.—Similar provision might be made in this case.

Article 97 (2).—It seems to me that it would be much simpler to allow the Court to fasten the several pieces and secure them with a seal, instead of forwarding them to the Consul-General for the purpose. If it is desired that the Consul-General should be the person to transmit the record to the Supreme Court, the Court could be required to transmit it to him, and not to the Supreme Court direct.

In the same way in sub-section (3) I think the words "the Court" should be substituted for "the Consul-General." I presume it is not intended that the Court should transmit the original documents to the Consul-General, for the risk of loss would be far greater in transmitting from the Court to the Consul-General than from the latter to Gibraltar.

Article 106 (1).—This will require amending, as these taxes have been changed by Article 59 of the Algeciras Act. Is it necessary to quote the special Articles to be enforced, or would a general provision, as in sub-section (2), be sufficient to meet all cases? If the Articles have to be quoted, a clause should be inserted to provide for the contingency of their amendment under Article 75 of the General Act of Algeciras.

Articles 107 *and* 108.—These Articles will have to be amended in accordance with the terms of the Algeciras Act. It should be made quite clear that it includes smuggling or attempting to smuggle in the territorial waters of Morocco. Cases have arisen where sailing craft have been seized when evidently engaged in smuggling; the goods have been put into boats for the purpose of being landing, but not having yet been actually put on shore, it has been argued for the defence that Articles 107 and 108 cannot be applied unless the contraband goods have actually been landed.

Article 115.—I would suggest that the word "proved" at the commencement of this Article be changed to "shown." Article 4 (xxviii) defines "proved" as "shown by evidence on oath . . . . to the satisfaction of the Court." It seems unnecessary whenever a foreign Court requires the attendance of a British subject or protected person as a witness to require proof on oath that the evidence of such person is necessary. It would, perhaps, be better to adapt the provisions of Articles 127 and 128 to witnesses required to attend Moorish or foreign Courts and require proof on oath only where it would be required in the case of summoning a witness to attend the Consular Court.

The penalty in Article 115 (2) might be that of an "offence against the Order," as in Articles 127 and 128, instead of "a grave offence."

Article 143.—A verbal alteration will be required here, "King" being substituted for "Queen."

I should mention that the Order in Council makes no provision for any examination into the circumstances attending the sudden death of a British subject where there has been no doctor in attendance and no certificate of cause of death is forthcoming. I would not suggest any jurisdiction being conferred on the Court such as that of a Coroner in England, as I think there would be great difficulty in

the matter, but some sort of power might be conferred on the Court, as, for instance, to order a post-mortem examination, if the Consular officer in his discretion should think necessary, in the case of the death of a British subject where no medical certificate as to the cause of death is forthcoming.

In practice I have been in the habit of requiring the production of such a certificate before authorizing the burial of a British subject, and the cemetery authorities will not permit a body to be buried in the cemetery without the permission of the Consulate of the nation of the deceased. But there is nothing to prevent the burial of a British subject on private grounds, in which case no one could interfere.

I am aware that the matter is a delicate one, but I think it my duty to mention it, in case it should be considered that some sort of provision should be made for it in the Order in Council.

Difficulties have sometimes arisen here in regard to the succession to real property left by a deceased British subject. Under Article XI of the Madrid Convention, 1880, all questions in regard to real property are to be decided according to Moorish law. In cases of inheritance of real property held by foreigners the Moorish Courts have decided that the law of the country of the deceased must be applied, therefore it has been the invariable custom hitherto in such cases, where the deceased was a British subject, for the Cadi to send two notaries to the British Consulate to inquire of me or of the Vice-Consul who by British law would inherit the property. Where the deceased has left a will or where he has died intestate leaving a son, and the facts have been well known, the declaration could be made without difficulty or risk and the matter has been satisfactorily settled. If, however, the facts of the case are not personally known to the Consular officer he cannot be expected to assume the responsibility of making any declaration unless he has been able in the first instance to satisfy himself as to the true facts of the case by holding an inquiry and taking evidence on oath if necessary. Moorish Courts will not hold an inquiry to ascertain the facts, nor will they give any decision. Thus a deadlock is arrived at, to the detriment of the heirs of the British subject. There is a case at present pending where a British subject died some time ago leaving a widow and daughter, who remained in possession of the real property. Subsequently the daughter died unmarried, and shortly after the widow died. The British Consular Court granted administration of the personal estate, but could not deal with the realty, which is claimed by relations of the widow, and also by those of her husband. Some of the various claimants reside in Morocco, whilst others are in Gibraltar, Algeria, France, and America, and are of different nationalities. Without a judicial inquiry after due notice to all parties, it is not possible to ascertain who by British law would be the heir to the property, but neither the Consular officer nor the Consular Court has power to hold inquiry. On the other hand, the Cadi will not deal with the case, stating it is for the British Consul to state to whom the property legally belongs. I have stated that if the Cadi will ascertain the facts I will inform him who on those facts, is the heir to the estate, but he will not do this. In the meantime the property is in the occupation of tenants who pay no rent and do not keep it in proper repair.

I would suggest that an Article be introduced into the Order in Council empowering the Court upon a reference being made to it by the Cadi, Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs, or Governor of the town to hold an inquiry in order to ascertain who by British law is entitled to the real estate of a deceased British subject.

Moorish subjects protected under the Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco, or Madrid Convention, 1880, are "British protected persons" as defined in Article 4 (xii). Under Article 5 the jurisdiction conferred by the Order is extended to them and their property.

Article 81 confers on the Supreme Court for Gibraltar and on the Consular Court with respect to the wills and the property in Morocco of deceased British protected persons jurisdiction in cases of probate and administration. And the succeeding Articles make various provisions in respect thereto.

In practice, however, it has been found impossible to give effect to these provisions; to attempt to do so would give rise to endless difficulties and troublesome questions with the Moorish authorities. The majority of Moorish subjects under British protection are native agents of merchants protected under Article X of the Madrid Convention, who reside in the interior, frequently at places where the Court would find it very difficult, if not impossible, to take any action. The

next-of-kin in whose possession the property of the deceased would be are not subject to the jurisdiction of the Court, and refuse to take out probate or letters of administration or to have anything to do with the Court, and the Moorish authorities would not support the Court in attempting to exercise any jurisdiction. It is expressly provided in Article VI of the Madrid Convention that the protection is not hereditary, and therefore the moment the protected person dies the protection ceases.

Under the circumstances it appears to me that it is advisable to amend Article 81 by the insertion of the words "except Moorish subjects," or words to that effect, after the words "British protected persons" in sub-sections (1) and (2).

Inclosure 2 in No. 115.

Memorandum of the various Articles in the General Act of Algeciras in respect to which provision will have to be made in the Order in Council.

Chapter I.—*Police.*

IT is difficult to say whether any provision need be made in this respect until it is known exactly what powers are to be conferred on the police in regard to British subjects.

Chapter II.—*Contraband in Arms, &c.*

Provision will have to be made for—

1. Enforcing the penalties in Articles 19, 20, 21, 22, 23.
2. Search of vessels, as required by Article 24.
3. Seizure and detention of vessels under Article 25.
4. Forfeiting to the Moorish Government the goods seized and the "boats" conveying them. (*Note.*—In the French text it is "les moyens de transport par terre" that are to be confiscated; "boats" in the English translation (p. 30, "Morocco, No. 1, 1906") is presumably a slip on the part of the translator.)
5. Prohibition of the sale of arms discarded by the Moorish Government. (This is intended to prevent the Moorish Government itself selling in the country its discarded arms, but, nevertheless, their sale by private persons is also hereby prohibited, the penalty being provided in Article 22.)
6. Distribution of proceeds of fines, as regulated in Article 28.
7. Institution of such proceedings (Article 29).

Chapter III.—*State Bank.*

I understand that the forging of bank-notes like those that may be issued by the Bank under Article 32, or the making of false coin in imitation of the coin of Morocco, referred to in Article 37, can be dealt with under British law without any special Article in regard thereto being required. Should there, however, be any doubt on this point, it is advisable that an Article be introduced in the Order in Council for the purpose.

Article 45.—Power should be conferred on the Consular Court for enforcing the attendance of a British subject or British protected person as a witness before the Tribunal contemplated in Article 45. The provisions of Article 115 of the existing Morocco Order in Council would scarcely extend to such a Tribunal.

Chapter IV.—*Taxes and Revenue.*

Article 59.—Power to be conferred on the Consular Court to enforce the payment of these taxes, and to dispose of the amount collected as herein provided. Powers also are required to enable these taxes to be assessed in accordance with the Regulations of the 23rd November, 1903.

Note.—Article 3 of the "Règlement" requires all foreigners and protected

persons to deliver to their Consular authority before the 1st February in each year a statement of their property liable to taxation. The amount assessed must be paid before the 6th July. Article 9 provides for the imposition of a fine in case of a false statement of property, the fine being double the amount of the tax.

Article 10.—In case of dispute as to the amount of the tax, an inquiry to be held, and if the assessment is found correct costs of inquiry to be paid by the person who had disputed it. Consular officers to enforce payment of house tax if not paid voluntarily.

Article 61.—(2.) Enforce payment of house tax and dispose of proceeds.

Articles 64 *and* 65.—(3.) Enforce payment of such other new taxes as may subsequently be imposed and dispose of proceeds.

Article 66.—I presume no special provision is required to enforce the payment of this tax, which will be leviable as import duty is now levied.

Article 70.—(4.) For enforcement of berthage or anchorage duties.

CHAPTER V.—*Suppression of Fraud and Smuggling.*

Article 77.—Power to be conferred on the Court to—

(1.) Compel the master to produce the original manifest if required to do so.
(2.) Impose penalty on master for refusing to admit watchmen.
Article 80.—(3.) Make search and inspection of vessel (Article 80).
Article 81.—(4.) Impose penalty for—

(*a.*) Neglect to deposit copy of manifest;
(*b.*) Deposit of incomplete or inaccurate manifest.

(5.) Seize vessel and cargo as security for such fines.

Article 83.—(6.) Impose penalty for false declaration. (Here there is a slip of the translator, "lors de la visite" being rendered as "on visiting the vessel," whereas it refers to the examination of the packages at the custom-house.)

Article 84.—(7.) Confiscate the goods falsely declared for the benefit of the Moorish Government.

Article 86.—(8.) Impose penalty as provided in Articles 88 and 90 below.

Article 87.—(9.) Confiscate goods smuggled and the means of transport and dispose of them.

Articles 88 *and* 89.—(10.) Impose penalties here provided.

Article 90.—(11.) Punish accessories.

Articles 91 *and* 92.—(12.) Seize and detain vessel delivered by Moorish authorities.

Article 101.—Provision to be made as to institution of proceedings as above.

CHAPTER VI.—*Public Works, &c.*

Article 113.—Power should be conferred on the Consular Court to give effect to a decision in regard to expropriation and compel surrender of property expropriated. Provision to be made for appeal against Award of Arbiters (Article 119).

[37246] No. 116.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 5.)

(No. 422.)
Sir,

Paris, November 4, 1906.

I HAD occasion to call on the Minister for Foreign Affairs yesterday evening, and in the course of conversation he informed me that the Spanish Government were acting entirely in accord with the French Government in regard to the dispatch of ships of war to certain ports in Morocco as a precautionary measure of police in case of disturbances.

In reply to my inquiry whether he apprehended any representation on the subject from the German Government, he said that he felt convinced that the Cabinet of

Madrid must have made sure of German acquiescence before deciding to join in the measures proposed by the French Government for carrying out the duties which devolved on France and Spain from the Algeciras Agreement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[37362] No. 117.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 5.)

(No. 60.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Tangier, November 5, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that an attack has been made by some Moors in a boat on a launch belonging to a French cruiser as she was going alongside the pier.

The Moors threatened the French with knives, and struck one man with a boat-hook.

The launch was forced to withdraw, bricks being thrown at her from the pier.

[37549] No. 118.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 8.)

(No. 431.)
Sir,

Paris, November 6, 1906.

THE inclosed official statement has been issued to the press this evening in regard to the attack made yesterday at Tangier on a steam-launch from the French cruiser "Galilée."*

In connection with this incident, "Le Temps" states that it is informed that M. Pichon is engaged in the arrangement of an understanding with the Spanish Government relative to the protection of Europeans in Morocco, and especially in regard to the organization of the police at Tangier, in conformity with the provisions of the Algeciras Act.

"Le Matin" also publishes a telegram, which I inclose,* from its correspondent at Algiers, stating that French officers and non-commissioned officers are being recruited there for service with this new police force, and containing extracts from a Circular issued by the Minister of War in regard to the class of officers required and the advantages to be accorded to them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[37791] No. 119.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 10.)

(No. 200.)
Sir,

Tangier, November 1, 1906.

ON several occasions lately Europeans have been shocked at seeing the bastinado brutally administered in the public market-place by Raisuli's officers, the flogging being sometimes continued long after the unfortunate victim had lost consciousness. The soldiers of this garrison are also continually flogged in public, and a few days ago two Moorish women, who had been found in the soldiers' tents, were also severely flogged in front of the Austrian Legation and of the house of the French Chargé d'Affaires, which happen to be situated close to the spot where some of the soldiers are camped.

The flogging of women and the public flogging of men was prohibited by the late Sultan many years ago upon representations made to him by the foreign Representatives, and it is only within the last few months that the practice has been resumed.

The place where Raisuli's deputy has the bastinado administered is situated between the French and German Legations; it was therefore felt that some action should be taken to put a stop to this brutal and demoralizing spectacle. The matter was brought forward by the Austrian Minister at a recent meeting of the foreign

* Not printed.

Representatives, and it was unanimously decided that the Italian Minister, M. Malmusi, as doyen, should address a letter to Sid Torres reminding his Excellency of the orders issued by the late Sultan, and expressing the hope that steps would be taken to insure their being complied with in the future as in the past.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[37792]

No. 120.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 10.)

(No. 201.)
Sir,

Tangier, November 1, 1906.

FOR some time past the bearing of Moors in this neighbourhood has appeared to many persons to be becoming worse. The fear of Europeans, which formerly held the Moors in check and made them show respect towards Christians, has given place to contempt, often ill-disguised or even openly evinced. The demeanour of the Moors and the experience of recent events have given rise to a sense of insecurity and uneasiness amongst the European and Jewish population of Tangier, who feel that at any moment some incident may give rise to an attack on themselves or their property. The Moorish authorities are also uneasy, and some of them have privately confessed to some anxiety on the subject, in speaking to merchants as well as to officials.

A few days since I was informed by one of the leading British subjects here that it was proposed to circulate for signature amongst British subjects a Memorial or Petition drawing attention to the present state of insecurity, and praying that measures be adopted for their protection.

My informant and another British subject, from whom I subsequently received a visit, and who was, I believe, the originator of the idea of a Petition, were apprehensive that there might at any moment be a spontaneous attack on Christians and Jews when their shops and houses would be looted. They considered it advisable that a British ship of war should come to Tangier.

I endeavoured to calm the fears of these gentlemen, reminding them that, although there were no British ships actually at Tangier, they could be sent from Gibraltar at very short notice in case of necessity, and that the French cruiser now here could, at any rate, temporarily check an attack such as they feared. I explained that I did not desire to control in any way the independent action of British subjects in this respect, but that I was personally of opinion that it would be preferable that the Petition be not circulated for the present. I understand that, in consequence of these conversations, no further steps have been taken in regard to the proposed Petition.

As an example of the nervous state of the population, I may cite an incident that occurred this morning. Raisuli's men had arrested in the town a Moor accused of stealing, and were taking him off, when the soldiers posted at the town gate refused to allow them to pass, on the grounds that the prisoner should be delivered to the Governor of the town. An altercation ensued. Rifles were loaded on both sides, additional troops were requisitioned, and a fight seemed inevitable, but happily did not take place.

The incident, however, was enough to create a panic in the town; people rushed to their houses, and shops were hastily closed, as it was feared that advantage would be taken of the disturbance to loot the property of Christians and Jews.

In the meantime, the prisoner was taken off by Raisuli's men, and at once subjected to a severe bastinado in the market place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[37793]

No. 121.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 10.)

(No. 202.)
Sir,

Tangier, November 3, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 199 of the 28th ultimo, I have the honour to report that Raisuli is still at Arzila, where he is exercising the functions of Governor and establishing his authority, the people of the surrounding district bringing him in presents, as is customary when new Governors are appointed. In the meantime a petition has been signed by the leading people of the place praying for his appointment as their Governor.

Some surprise has been caused by Raisuli's treatment of Berian and his fellow prisoners, including Widan, who was subsequently surrendered to Raisuli by the tribe to which he had escaped wounded. These men, after having been severely flogged, have been sent as prisoners to Tangier, one of them dying on the road.

The explanation offered of Raisuli's action in flogging men who had merely carried out his instructions is that, though originally acting for Raisuli, when once their raid on Arzila was crowned with success, they decided to keep for themselves what they had won, and to Raisuli's messages had replied tauntingly that they had accomplished in a few hours what he had been unable to do during two years, and that they had no orders to receive from him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[37794]

No. 122.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 10.)

(No. 203.)
Sir,

Tangier, November 3, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 184 of the 5th ultimo, I have the honour to report that the Syndicate of French banks, who made the 1904 Loan to the Moorish Government, have arranged an advance of 2,000,000 fr. (about 80,000*l.*) to the Makhzen on the same terms as the loan made by Messrs. Mendelssohn's bank last September, except that a smaller commission is charged. The Government properties not already assigned for the German Loan are given as security for the present loan.

I understand that the contract for this loan has not yet been actually signed, but the Makhzen has signified its acceptance of the terms and has received a payment on account.

It was probably the receipt by the Makhzen of this money which gave rise to the report that a loan had been negotiated by the German Minister.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[37795]

No. 123.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 10.)

(No. 204. Confidential.)
Sir,

Tangier, November 3, 1906.

I LEARN from Kaïd Sir H. Maclean that he has been informed confidentially by an official at the Court that a German Engineer officer of the rank of Captain is to enter the Sultan's service.

This news requires confirmation, but there is some probability of its being correct, as the Sultan has had in his employment for many years a German civil engineer, who had charge of the building of the fort at Rabat, and who died a few months ago. The Engineer officer may therefore be regarded as his successor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[37933] No. 124.

Sir A Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 12.)

(No. 741.)
(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, November 6, 1906.*

BARON D'AEHRENTHAL mentioned to me that on taking up office he had found that Count Goluchowski had promised to publish a Red Book on the Algeciras Conference, and that he had consulted Berlin with regard to what documents should be published. He had received a request that no reports which dealt with the interchange of views between the Governments at Vienna and Berlin should be made public, and he had also understood from Count Mensdorff that you would prefer that as little as possible should be printed, so as not to revive polemics which had already passed out of the public mind. He, therefore, intended to publish a Red Book of a most innocent character, and which would contain little or nothing of interest.

[38129] No. 125.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 12.)

(No. 61.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 12, 1906.*

SULTAN'S interpretation of General Act.

With reference to my telegram No. 38 of the 2nd September, the Spanish Minister informs me that his Government, who apparently do not wish to be the channel for the communication to the Moorish Government of the replies of the Powers, have decided to decline to discuss the points raised. As to the manner of communicating this decision to the Sultan's Government, he has been instructed to consult with French Chargé d'Affaires and myself.

I told M. Llaveria that I thought El Mokri would probably bring the matter forward, which would afford us an opening to communicate the replies of our Governments, but that I was without instructions from you on this point.

I subsequently held a conversation with the French Chargé d'Affaires. He agreed with the view expressed that it would be inadvisable to leave the communication of the Moorish Government without a reply, as they ought not to be allowed to infer that their interpretations were accepted because we were silent on the subject, but he considered that, until the Moorish Government raised the question, the matter might be allowed to rest.

[38130] No. 126.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 12.)

(No. 62.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 12, 1906.*

IN my telegram No. 56 of the 29th ultimo I had the honour to report that the German Government have stated that they are prepared to commence at once the discussion of questions arising out of the Algeciras Act without waiting for its ratification.

I am informed by the Spanish Minister that his Government consider that official discussions cannot be commenced until the Act has been ratified, but that, in order to save time, informal preparatory discussions might now be held. He has been instructed to ascertain and report the views of his colleagues.

I replied that I should conform to the action of the French Minister, and that His Majesty's Government concurred in the view of the French Government that official discussions must be preceded by ratification.

The French Minister is returning to Tangier, and will stop at Madrid on the way.

The French Chargé d'Affaires has not yet received instructions.

[38135] No. 127.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 13.)

(No. 440.)
Sir, *Paris, November 12, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, extracted from the "Temps," an article reporting an interview between M. Tardieu, the well-known writer on foreign affairs, under the pseudonym of "George Villiers," and M. Regnault, the French Minister at Tangier, respecting the state of affairs in Morocco.

M. Regnault does not attempt to prophesy what will be the eventual outcome of the existing state of affairs in the neighbourhood of Tangier, but merely calls attention to the complete uncertainty of the situation and to the fact that, should Raisuli wish to seize the town, nothing could prevent him from doing so.

The police, he hopes, will be ready to enter upon their duties about the month of April.

As regards the frontier of Algeria, M. Regnault advocates energetic reprisals in case of attack, but anticipates nothing more than "sporadic" outbursts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

Inclosure in No. 127.

Extract from the "Temps" of November 11, 1906.

M. REGNAULT, Ministre de France au Maroc, a pris le train ce matin pour rejoindre son poste. Il a employé son séjour à Paris à se mettre avec le Gouvernement en parfait accord sur toutes les mesures que peuvent rendre nécessaires aussi bien la situation actuelle que l'application de l'Acte Final de la Conférence d'Algésiras.

Je lui ai demandé de bien vouloir, avant son départ, me dire comment il envisageait l'état de choses que tant de télégrammes dépeignent comme alarmant.

"La grosse question du moment," m'a répondu M. Regnault, "est celle de la sécurité à Tanger. Nul plus que moi ne regrette les exagérations que publient certains journaux sur les affaires Marocaines. Mais force m'est de reconnaître que la situation actuelle est loin d'être satisfaisante. Un de mes collègues étrangers la caractérisait récemment avec beaucoup de justesse en disant qu'un changement radical s'imposait. En quoi peut consister ce changement?

"A l'heure où nous sommes, et surtout à Tanger, l'autorité du Makhzen n'existe plus. C'est l'impuissance et l'abdication totale au profit d'Erraissouli. Et Erraissouli, devenu fonctionnaire, a gardé des mœurs de brigand. Le jour où, sur ses sommations, le Makhzen l'a nommé Caïd du Fahs, c'est-à-dire de la plaine, ou, en d'autres termes, de la banlieue de Tanger, où les Européens ont de grosses propriétés, il avait espéré sans doute le contenir et le dominer par les liens de la hiérarchie. Il est trop clair aujourd'hui qu'Erraissouli ne se reconnaît point de maître. Le 'Temps' a publié le récit de ses derniers exploits: fermeture des puits, taxes illégales prélevées à main armée, scellés apposés sur les pompes de la Compagnie Espagnole d'Électricité, extorsions de fonds sous tous prétextes, exécutions arbitraires—je n'y reviens pas. Je constate seulement que, si demain Erraissouli veut, après la banlieue, tenir aussi Tanger, ce n'est pas le Makhzen qui pourra l'en empêcher.

"Est-ce à dire qu'on doive prévoir pour une heure prochaine des événements fâcheux? Il est impossible de rien affirmer, car au Maroc les évènements ne s'enchaînent pas suivant un ordre logique. On assiste à l'embrasement de successifs feux de paille, qui demain seront éteints, mais qui après-demain peuvent flamber de nouveau. Je ne saurais mieux traduire ma pensée qu'en vous disant que c'est l'incertitude absolue. Cela peut s'arranger. Cela peut s'aggraver. Nul ne sait si c'est la première hypothèse qui se vérifiera ou la seconde. Vous voyez donc que je ne suis pas un prophète de malheur. Mais ce qu'il faut bien comprendre, c'est qu'à Tanger on ne peut compter à aucun degré sur le Gouvernement du Sultan. Ce Gouvernement n'existe malheureusement pas. C'est le néant. Or, le néant n'est pas

une garantie. Et c'est pourquoi, sans pousser les choses au noir, je pense que l'insécurité présente, l'impossibilité où l'on est de tabler sur l'avenir créent pour les étrangers résidant au Maroc un état de choses qui justifie toutes leurs préoccupations. Tanger est une ville trop Européenne pour que cette instabilité puisse s'y prolonger sans dommage.

"Là contre, que pouvons-nous faire? Pour le présent, rien de plus que ce que le Conseil des Ministres a décidé. Je crois d'ailleurs que la présence du 'Galilée,' de la 'Jeanne-d'Arc' et des deux vaisseaux Espagnols suffit comme avertissement. Pour l'avenir, nous remplirons, avec l'Espagne, le rôle que nous a tracé la Conférence et nous le remplirons aussi vite que nous pourrons. Vous savez quelle est la marche à suivre: d'abord constituer la Banque d'État, puisque c'est elle qui payera la police. Le comité d'études a, cet été, élaboré les statuts. Ces statuts ont été, comme le prévoyait l'Acte Final, soumis à l'approbation des quatre censeurs, qui est acquise. Le Comité rédige en ce moment même le Règlement intérieur qui déterminera les relations de la Banque avec le Gouvernement Marocain. Et je pense que ce Règlement sera complet aujourd'hui ou demain. Quand il aura été, comme les statuts, approuvé par les censeurs, nous serons à pied-d'œuvre. Et il ne restera plus qu'à former l'Assemblée Générale. Pour réunir cette Assemblée, il faut que toutes les Puissances aient ratifié l'Acte Final. En admettant—et j'espère qu'on gagnera du temps—que les ratifications ne soient achevées que le 31 Décembre, j'estime que la Banque pourra fonctionner au plus tard dans le courant de Février.

"D'ici là, nous nous mettrons, avec l'Espagne, d'accord sur l'organisation de la police. Le Gouvernement Suisse pourra désigner l'Inspecteur. Et dès le mois de Mars par conséquent, le Règlement relatif à la police, Règlement à l'élaboration duquel doivent participer l'officier Français et l'officier Espagnol le plus élevé en grade, l'Inspecteur et un Délégué Chérifien, sera vraisemblablement établi. Il n'est donc pas téméraire de conclure que la police aura ses cadres prêts au début du second trimestre de 1907. Ce que je vous ai dit tout à l'heure me dispense d'ajouter qu'il eût mieux valu, dans l'intérêt de tous, abréger ce délai. Mais comment eût-ce été possible?

"Au reste, nous allons tout de suite, mes collègues et moi, nous mettre à un travail utile. Vous savez que la Conférence a chargé le Corps Diplomatique d'établir avec les Représentants du Makhzen les Règlements relatifs aux travaux publics et à la répression de la contrebande. Sur cette dernière question, l'Acte Final est assez détaillé pour que nous n'ayons pas grand'chose à y ajouter. Sur la première, qui est essentielle tant au point de vue du développement économique du Maroc qu'à celui de la bonne harmonie entre les Puissances, les Plénipotentiaires ont posé des principes. Il nous faut les traduire en dispositions pratiques. Mokri, de retour de Fez, a déjà fait savoir aux Légations qu'il était prêt à commencer cette étude. Nous sommes tous désireux de la conduire à bonne fin dans le plus bref délai.

"Restent les incidents de frontière. Il ne faut pas en exagérer l'importance, mais il serait fâcheux pourtant de les négliger. Je ne crois pas du tout aux menaces de guerre sainte, dont quelques journaux ont parlé. Par contre, je suis convaincu que nos postes vont avoir à repousser des attaques sporadiques qui seront comme la monnaie du grand 'rezzou' annoncé souvent, certainement préparé, mais jamais réalisé. Toutes les fois que nous serons ainsi inquiétés, nous devrons répondre énergiquement, en usant des droits que nous confèrent, pour la poursuite des agresseurs, les Traités de 1845, de 1901, et de 1902. Ce sont là des représailles indispensables. Nous aurions grand tort de ne les pas exercer. Quant à croire que les pillards Marocains soient actuellement un réel danger pour nous, je ne le pense pas.

"Vous voyez donc mon état d'esprit et comment j'estime qu'il faut juger la situation. Il n'y a pas lieu de s'inquiéter outre mesure, mais force est bien de constater une anarchie gouvernementale qui, dans les villes où résident les Européens, appelle notre plus sérieuse attention. Du côté de l'Algérie, vigilance, fermeté, vigueur, mais pas d'emballement répressif et pas d'exagérations pessimistes. Dans les ports, mise en œuvre, aussi prompte que faire se pourra, des décisions de la Conférence. Et d'ici là, des mesures de surveillance et de précaution, qui jouent vis-à-vis d'Erraissouli et de ses pareils le rôle de frein que le Makhzen ne joue plus. Ce sont là les instructions mêmes dont le Gouvernement m'a muni et dont je m'inspirerai à Tanger, en parfait accord, je n'ai pas besoin de vous le dire, avec les autorités civiles et militaires qui sont, en Algérie, mes collaboratrices pour tout ce qui concerne la frontière."

[38129] No. 128.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 293.)
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Foreign Office, November* 13, 1906.

TELEGRAM from Tangier No 61 of the 12th instant.
Sultan's interpretation of Algeciras Act.
Please ascertain from French Government whether they propose to make any reply to the Moorish Government, and, if so, how, and in what terms.

[38234] No. 129.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 14.)

(No. 443.)
Sir, *Paris, November* 13, 1906.

AS the time approaches for France to take up the task confided to her at Algeciras, there are signs that public opinion realizes the responsibilities which will thereby be incurred, and is even inclined to take a gloomy view of possible complications in Morocco.

The statement made by M. Regnault, French Minister at Tangier, on the eve of his departure for his post, transmitted in my despatch No. 440 of the 12th instant, was not particularly reassuring in view of the reticence properly appertaining to his position.

M. Eugène Lautier, who supported M. Rouvier's policy at Algeciras, writing in "Le Figaro" of to-day's date, reflects the somewhat pessimistic tone of public opinion. He states that eighteen months ago France realized that Morocco was not worth a European war, and now it is equally felt that Morocco is not worth a "Moroccan war." He continues:—

"Il faut que le parti Colonial en prenne son parti. Comme le démontrait naguère la 'Gazette de Frankfort,' c'est lui qui a jeté la diplomatie Française dans le guêpier" (an expression of M. Clemenceau) "du Maroc. Les coloniaux nous ont poussés, l'épée dans les reins, sans tenir compte des circonstances défavorables. Nous avons reçu de l'Europe un mandat spécial, partagé, et limité. L'heure n'est pas engageante pour l'interpréter dans un sens trop large qui nous donnerait peu de profit et toutes les responsabilités."

The Colonial group referred to is a very strong body, and exercises a powerful influence through the "Comité de l'Afrique Française" and the "Comité du Maroc," which comprise the names of such representative men as Prince d'Arenberg; M. Hébrard, of "Le Temps"; M. Agnard, of "Le Journal des Débats"; M. Binger, of the Ministry of the Colonies; M. Hanotaux; M. Deschanel; M. Étienne; M. René Millet; M. Robert de Caix, &c.

An article in "La Revue Politique et Parlementaire" by M. René Millet, ex-Resident in Tunis, has also attracted considerable attention. It is largely a severe criticism of the settlement at Algeciras and a forecast of future difficulties in dealing with the execution of the task intrusted to France and Spain, and he puts forward the view that the French Government would remove the chief obstacle in their way if they would bring about "de meilleurs rapports" with Germany.

M. René Millet's criticisms and suggestions are the subject of a leading article in "Le Temps" of to-day's date, in which the writer is concerned to defend the action of the French Government at Algeciras. The conclusion of the article is, however, of some significance as coming from "Le Temps," which throughout the Moroccan question has maintained a very anti-German tone, and it has rather the appearance of an olive branch held out to that Power. With regard to the necessity of destroying the Makhzen's belief in the permanent hostility of France and Germany the article states:—

"La correction parfaite que le Dr. Rosen semble avoir observée pendant son séjour à Fez, et le soin courtois qu'a pris la Chancellerie Allemande de souligner cette attitude, sont à cet égard de bon augure. Oui, certes, nous pouvons faire plus encore et nous entendre avec l'Allemagne pour que le Makhzen renonce définitivement à ses illusions. Ce sera le rôle de notre diplomatie; et si véritablement on veut, à

Berlin, causer, mais causer avec précision, des affaires extra-Européennes, on trouvera le Gouvernement Français prêt à écouter et à répondre."

"Le Temps" concludes by saying that M. Millet is correct in believing that the value of the settlement at Algeciras would thereby greatly be increased, and declares that it has always had in view the possibility of this "plus-value" making itself felt.

In the meantime a telegram from Morocco, published in "Le Matin" of this morning, does not make it appear that the Sultan has yet abandoned his "illusions"; it gives the substance of a letter alleged to have been addressed by the Sultan to the Amel of Oudjda, in which he advises him to pay no attention to the representations of the French, as they will do him no harm, being much too occupied by the thought of the 4,000,000 men which threaten their own frontier at home.

The reports of effervescence among the tribes on the Algerian frontier, the anarchy in the coast towns, and such evidence of the Makhzen's state of mind as are brought to the knowledge of the French public by the telegram in "Le Matin," are all calculated to produce that feeling of pessimism to which I have made allusion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[38444] No. 130.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 14.)

(No. 118.)

(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Paris, November 14, 1906.*

MOROCCO.

Your telegram No. 293 of yesterday.

M. Pichon received, yesterday, a telegram of that date from the French Representative at Tangier, stating that the Spanish Representative had instructions to concert with his French and British colleagues the reply to the Moorish Government declining to discuss the points raised by the Sultan in regard to the Algeciras Act.

M. Pichon thinks that if the Spanish Government show disinclination to be the channel of the reply which, in view of his more recent information than Mr. White's telegram of the 12th instant, he hopes will not be the case, the French and British Ambassadors at Madrid should put pressure on the Spanish Government to make the reply agreed on by the three Governments, as the Sultan's objections were transmitted through the Spanish Ambassadors at Paris and London.

[38360] No. 131.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 14.)

(No. 106.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, November 14, 1906.*

THE following account of the views of the French Government on the present situation in Morocco, and the best way of dealing with it, was given to me to-day by the French Ambassador, who has just returned to Madrid.

The French Minister to Morocco, who passed through Madrid on the 12th instant, did not stop to confer with the Spanish Government, but proceeded at once to his post, in view of the latest incident which occurred a few days ago, when a French citizen was violently assaulted opposite the French Legation at Tangier. M. Regnault will report to his Government without delay on the situation, which seems to be going from bad to worse. In the opinion of the French Government the following measures should, if they prove to be necessary, be taken by them in concert with the Spanish Government: A force, which might be supplemented by a small body of troops from Oran and Cadiz, to be landed from the French and Spanish ships of war now at Tangier, for the preservation of order and the protection of foreigners. The French Government think that in any case it may be advisable that France and Spain should assure the Powers, by means of a joint or separate communication, that, fully conscious of the duties assumed by them at Algeciras, France and Spain will take any measures which may prove to be necessary to preserve the peace along the Morocco coast pending the organization of the joint police, which cannot be completed before four or five months owing to the delay in the constitution of the Morocco Bank, which is to provide the funds.

M. Cambon is not satisfied with the attitude of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs about Morocco, and spoke to his Excellency yesterday on the subject. Señor Gullon admitted, when pressed by his Excellency, that he had unofficially consulted the German Government on the subject of Morocco, both through the German Ambassador at Madrid and the Spanish Ambassador at Berlin. This admission of Spain's infidelity to her engagements drew an expression of astonishment from the French Ambassador, who insisted strongly on the necessity that the Spanish Government should in future act loyally up to them.

I await your instructions as to whether I should speak in the same sense to the Spanish Government. M. Cambon thinks it would be useful that I should do so.

If strong measures are not speedily adopted the French Ambassador is afraid that some German or American national may be the victim of an outrage, and that those Governments will then be led, without the intervention of France and Spain, to exact forcible reparation.

I observed to the French Ambassador that the Spanish Foreign Office was too much given to holding language in regard to Morocco similar to that recently held to me by the German Ambassador, to the effect that the newspapers are given to exaggeration, and that nothing is happening in Morocco that calls for exceptional measures. I was struck, I said, by the apparent indifference with which Moroccan affairs are now treated at the Ministry of State.

The above is confidential.

[38356] No. 132.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 14.)

(No. 107.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, November 14, 1906.*

THE French Ambassador inquired this morning respecting the report in the newspapers, which he hoped was true, that the Atlantic fleet was going to Tangier. I told his Excellency I had no information on the subject.

[38360] No. 133.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 53.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, November 14, 1906.*

WITH reference to your Excellency's telegram No. 106 of to-day, I am informed by the French Ambassador that action is being taken at Tangier by France and Spain jointly with the object of securing order there.

I told M. Cambon that this course met with my complete approval, and added that the frank and cordial manner in which Spain appeared to be co-operating with France was particularly gratifying.

Complications would be renewed if other Powers were to interfere; it would, therefore, be most unfortunate if an opening for such interference were afforded by any lack of confidence on the part of the Spanish Government.

I request that your Excellency will give your support to the French Ambassador at Madrid, and urge the Spanish Government to give due heed to the above considerations.

[37791] No. 134.

Foreign Office to Mr. White.

(No. 134.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, November 14, 1906.*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 200 of the 1st instant on the subject of the public floggings that have recently taken place in Tangier, and to inform you that he approves of the action taken by you, in conjunction with the Diplomatic Body, in addressing representations to Sid Torres on the subject.

Sir E. Grey desires that you will associate yourself in any steps that may be taken having as their object the suppression of this revolting practice.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ERIC BARRINGTON.

[38461] No. 135.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 15.)

(No. 63.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 15, 1906.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 62 of the 12th instant, I have the honour to state that the Belgian Minister has been authorized by his Government to commence the discussion of matters arising out of the General Act of Algeciras.

The French Minister returned yesterday. He informs me that he is willing to enter upon a preparatory discussion of some points of lesser importance, such as the Regulations to be drawn up under Article 110 in regard to public works, the framing of which was reserved for the Diplomatic Body at Tangier.

[38444] No. 136.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. White.

(No. 30.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, November 15, 1906.*

MOORISH interpretation of Algeciras Act. Sir F. Bertie's telegram No. 118 of yesterday.

Report at once if Spanish Representative finally declines to communicate reply as suggested, in order that we may send necessary instructions to Sir M. de Bunsen.

[38477] No. 137.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 16.)

(No. 446. Confidential.)
Sir, *Paris, November 14, 1906.*

I HAD the honour to receive to-day your telegram No. 293 of yesterday, and I called on the Minister for Foreign Affairs in order to carry out the directions contained in it.

I told M. Pichon that Mr. White, the British Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier, had learnt from his Spanish colleague that the Spanish Government had decided to refuse to discuss the points raised by the Sultan of Morocco in regard to the Algeciras Act, and had instructed him to consult the British and French Representatives as to the mode of communicating to the Moorish Government a reply to that effect. Mr. White reported, however, that apparently the Spanish Government did not wish to be the channel for making the reply. In these circumstances you had, I said, instructed me to inquire whether the French Government proposed to make any reply to the Moorish Government, and, if so, how, and in what terms. I added that the French Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier had expressed the opinion that the matter might be allowed to rest until raised by the Moorish Government, but that it was not advisable to let the Moorish Government infer from the absence of a reply that their interpretation of the Act was accepted by the three Governments.

M. Pichon observed that the information which he had received from Tangier did not quite tally with that which I had quoted to him as sent to you by Mr. White. The latest telegram which he had received from Tangier was dated yesterday. It stated that the Spanish Representative had instructions to concert with his French and British colleagues the reply to the Moorish Government declining to discuss the points raised by the Sultan regarding the Algeciras Act. His Excellency hoped that this telegram, being of a day's later date than Mr. White's telegram, indicated that the Spanish Government had instructed their Representative to make the reply, to be arranged with the French and British Representatives, to the Moorish Government. If, however, the Spanish Government should still show disinclination to be the channel of the communication to the Sultan's Government, his Excellency thought

that the French and British Ambassadors at Madrid should point out to the Spanish Government that, inasmuch as the Sultan's objections were communicated to the French and British Governments by the Spanish Ambassadors at Paris and London, the Spanish Government should make the reply agreed on by them and the French and British Governments.

M. Pichon went on to say that recent information which he had received showed that the Spanish Government were becoming rather intractable in the matter of their engagements in regard to Morocco. He attributed this attitude partly to Castilian pride and the desire not to appear to be in the tow of the French Government, but in a still greater measure to the influence of the German Government, whose counsels the French Ambassador in Madrid reported were much considered by the Spanish Government. M. Pichon suggested that, if this attitude of the Spanish Government continued, it might perhaps be advisable for the French and British Ambassadors to make some confidential representations to the King of Spain. His Majesty's well-known French and English predilections would probably lead him to bring his Government to a proper appreciation of their engagements.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[38585] No. 138.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 16.)

(No. 64.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 16, 1906.*

THE Doyen of the Diplomatic Body has received a communication from the American Chargé d'Affaires stating that the American Government anticipate that Congress will shortly ratify the Algeciras Act and adding that he is provisionally authorized to take part in the discussions when the moment for holding them has been agreed upon.

See my telegram No. 63 of yesterday.

[38444] No. 139.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 295.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, November 16, 1906.*

MOORISH interpretation of Algeciras Act.

Should the Spanish Representative at Tangier finally refuse to communicate reply to Moorish Government as suggested, we will instruct His Majesty's Ambassador at Madrid to make a representation to Spanish Government in the sense desired by the French Government. See my telegram No. 30 of yesterday to Mr. White.

[38461] No. 140.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. White.

(No. 31.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, November 16, 1906.*

MATTERS reserved for discussion at Tangier under Algeciras Act.

Your telegram No. 63 of the 15th instant.

You are authorized to commence discussion of minor points in a preliminary manner, if your French colleague is prepared to do so. Please refer to instructions in my telegram No. 26 of the 12th ultimo.

[38631] No. 141.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 17.)

(No. 205.)
Sir, *Tangier, November 9, 1906.*

A FEW days since the steam pinnace of the French cruiser "Galilée" was coming alongside the pier when an altercation ensued between the sailors and some

Moors in a boat which refused to make way for them. One of the Moors struck a French sailor with a boat-hook, and others drew their knives in a threatening manner. Wishing to avoid a conflict the pinnace withdrew, bricks being thrown at it from the pier as it left.

The French Chargé d'Affaires, who came to see me soon after the occurrence, told me of the incident, and said that the Captain of the "Galilée" was much incensed, and had declared that if his boats were attacked he would have to send his men armed so as to defend themselves.

Count Sainte-Aulaire now, however, informs me that he has had the matter investigated, and does not attribute much importance to it, as it is possible the steam pinnace had irritated the people in the other boat by trying to push in to the pier steps. The Moorish authorities have imprisoned three men who had thrown the bricks, and the incident might be considered as closed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[38632]

No. 142.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 17.)

(No. 206.)
Sir,

Tangier, November 9, 1906.

THE latest reports that have reached me from the southern districts are more satisfactory. Good rains have fallen, and the people have begun ploughing, which always tends to keep the country quiet. The Shereef, Mulai-el-Amrani, has been sent by the Sultan to endeavour to restore peace amongst the southern tribes, but it is unlikely that his efforts will meet with complete success.

Complaints are made that the Viceroy of Marakesh, Mulai-el-Hafeed, protects the Rahamna robbers who pillage caravans, and it is believed that his Highness receives a share of the spoil. The chief of the robbers was recently arrested in Marakesh, and imprisoned, but was subsequently released by order of Mulai Hafeed.

The Shereef, Ma-el-Aineen, whose followers created disturbances at Daralbaida and Marakesh, spent some days at Mogador on his way to his home. They were provided with ample supplies at the Government's expense during their stay in that town, and were very unpopular with the Moors, but did not commit any acts of violence. They sold to the natives some of the arms and ammunition with which they had been supplied by the Sultan when at Fez.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[38633]

No. 143.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 17.)

(No. 207.)
Sir,

Tangier, November 9, 1906.

SOME weeks since a well on the beach, from which Moorish water-carriers are accustomed to draw water, fell in, and Raisuli's deputy, Ben Mansour, sent round to all Europeans living on the beach demanding contributions towards the cost of repair, and, as usual with Moors, collected a very much larger sum than can possibly be spent. The Compañia Trasatlantica, an important Spanish Company which supplies this town with electric light, were thus called upon to pay 100 dollars, or about 12*l*. The Company's agent refused to pay without first referring to his principals in Spain for instructions. Thereupon Ben Mansour nailed up a well on the beach belonging to the Spanish Company which supplied their works with water drawn by an aerometer. The ostensible pretext for this high-handed action was a claim put forward that the well was Government property, and improperly taken possession of by the Spanish Company.

As a matter of fact, the well was built by the Spanish Company, and the aerometer was erected some years since with the consent in writing of the Moorish Government. The Spanish Minister complained to Sid Torres, who, at once recognizing the justice of the complaint, had the well opened. Ben Mansour, however, immediately had it nailed up again, and announced that any one venturing to open it would be shot. The Company were therefore forced to draw water from the sea for

their engines, and even this at first was forbidden by Ben Mansour. The machinery, however, speedily broke down, being injured by the use of salt water.

After some days of negotiation through Sid Torres, during which the electric light of the town was cut off, Ben Mansour agreed to accept as a compromise that the Compañia Trasatlantica should surrender another well they owned close by, which had been purchased some time ago from a Frenchman, and should be allowed to retain their other well with the aerometer, the Company also secretly paying the subscription of 100 dollars previously demanded for the repair of the public well. The Company have been allowed seven days for consideration, and if at the end of that time his terms are not accepted, Ben Mansour declares he will again close the well.

From the language held to me by the Spanish Minister, I gather that the terms are likely to be accepted, humiliating as they are, as it is feared that the adoption of a strong attitude may give rise to serious disturbances, which the Moorish authorities declare themselves powerless to prevent, notwithstanding the troops at their disposal.

Should the Company submit to these terms the effect will be deplorable, and Ben Mansour will be encouraged to further exploits of a similar nature. The well he proposes to repair is used almost entirely by Moorish water-carriers of the town, and not by the European owners of houses in the neighbourhood, and yet he has been successful in levying forced contributions from the latter contrary to Treaty stipulations, and in one case to enforce payment by seizing a well belonging to an important Spanish Company, thereby cutting off the light supply of the town and causing the greatest inconvenience to the whole population.

The plea of *non possumus* is found by the Makhzen to be a very convenient way of cutting short the discussion of troublesome questions and avoiding giving satisfaction to foreigners. I cannot, however, think that it is in every case a valid one, and in this special instance I am of opinion that, with the troops at their disposal, and with the French and Spanish cruisers standing by to render assistance if required, a satisfactory settlement could have been obtained with a little good-will and firmness on the part of the Moorish authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[38634]

No. 144.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 17.)

(No. 208.)
Sir,

Tangier, November 10, 1906.

I TOOK the opportunity this morning, when calling upon the German Minister upon his return from the Court, to inquire as to the impression made upon him by the Sultan and the Viziers, and whether he was of opinion that the Makhzen realized the gravity of the state of affairs into which this country has drifted, and were disposed to make a serious effort to remedy the evil.

Dr. Rosen at first sought to minimize the seriousness of the situation, saying that there had been gross exaggeration in the reports published in the papers, which seized every trivial incident, which in Europe would be merely chronicled amongst the "faits divers" in the back sheets of the papers, but here was magnified into an "affaire."

I pointed out to him that, whilst the newspapers naturally made the most of their facts, they were nevertheless generally facts, and their importance lay not so much in the incidents themselves, many of which might well have occurred in other countries, but in the attitude adopted by the Makhzen in regard to them. Murders, robberies, and disturbances undoubtedly occur in the most civilized countries, but there the authorities at once take serious steps to punish the guilty and to stop the evil; whereas in Morocco the outrages are frequently committed by, or, at any rate, with the connivance of, the so-called authorities, and when complaint is made to the Makhzen they frankly admit the justice of the complaint or claim, but content themselves by pleading their inability to do justice as they are unable to exercise any authority.

Dr. Rosen admitted the truth of these remarks, and added that the situation at Tangier and the position of the foreign Representatives was "disgusting." He was much struck by the little respect shown to the foreign Ministers at Tangier; he had lived much in Oriental countries, and in all of them even subordinate Consular officers are treated with more respect than is shown to a foreign Minister at Tangier.

I then repeated my inquiry as to the frame of mind in which he had found

the Sultan and Viziers, asking whether he had come away with any hopes of improvement.

Dr. Rosen was unwilling to say much. He had received the greatest kindness and attention from all at Fez from the Sultan downwards, and everywhere on his journey he had met with nothing but courtesy. He was evidently unwilling to say anything unflattering about his late hosts, and yet was apparently unable to say anything in their favour, except in regard to their treatment of himself and his party. He declared himself unable to prophesy as to the future; but when I said, on leaving, that I feared the situation was not very hopeful, he observed that we need not be despondent.

One remark which Dr. Rosen let slip afforded me an insight into his real opinion as to what might be expected from the Court in the way of serious efforts to grapple with the evil. He said that the two remarks he heard most often at the Court were "La bas" and "Ma zal." The former implies that there is nothing bad in the situation—that "all is right," in fact; the latter, meaning "not yet," was evidently the plea for procrastination opposed to every suggestion of action.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[38757] No. 145.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 17.)

(No. 108. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, November 17, 1906.*

I HAVE been informed, confidentially, by the French Ambassador that assurances which he has received from the King of Spain as to hearty co-operation with France in Morocco were of a very satisfactory nature.

M. Cambon will wait till I have received instructions similar to those now received by him to urge the Spanish Government to make themselves the channel of the necessary communication to the Sultan rejecting the points raised by him concerning the General Act of Algeciras.

I shall have an opportunity to-morrow of speaking to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs in the sense of your telegram No. 53. His Excellency has been too busy to see me these last few days.

[38756] No. 146.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 17.)

(No. 65.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 17, 1906.*

COMMUNICATION to Sultan of reply to His Majesty's interpretations of certain clauses of the Algeciras Act.

The French Minister considers that it is undesirable that the Spanish Minister should be pressed to make the reply of the three Governments (see your telegram No. 30 of the 15th instant) as this would involve his communicating the replies of Germany, Austria, and other Powers.

He thinks it better to let the matter rest and to reply, if the question is raised here, that he cannot in any way discuss the matter as he has no cognizance of it and no instructions.

He fears that an opening to other Powers to enter upon a discussion would be afforded if he made a definite reply, even though it were a refusal to discuss the question.

[38764] No. 147.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 17.)

(No. 66.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 17, 1906.*

WITH reference to the measures described in Sir M. de Bunsen's telegram No. 106 of the 14th instant to secure the safety of Europeans at Tangier, I am informed by the French Minister that he will land Marines only to restore order if disturbances actually occur, but that he has no idea of landing them as a precaution.

[38758] No. 148.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 18.)

(No. 109.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, November 18, 1906.*

I HAVE spoken to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs in the sense of your telegram No. 53 on the subject of Morocco.

His Excellency hopes that France, with whom Spain desires to act frankly and cordially, will pay some attention to the Spanish view of the situation. This does not entirely agree with the French view, which his Excellency regards as exaggerated, in so far as it relates to north-west Morocco, which is perhaps in not so disturbed a state as is represented by the French. The Spanish Government regard with apprehension the contingency, of which the French Ambassador is already beginning to speak, of landing troops in Morocco, on account of the difficulty of subsequent withdrawal as well as the impression it would create in other quarters. Spain would, however, not refuse to co-operate if convinced of the necessity of such a display of force, although in that case she would prefer not to employ regular troops, but marines.

The French Ambassador, his Excellency observed, was disposed to regard as an infidelity to the engagements of Spain towards France the slightest discussion which Spain might have with Germany. Señor Gullon thinks that M. Cambon is unduly sensitive on this point.

I informed his Excellency that in my opinion such discussions with Germany might lead the latter to suppose that Spain was drawing away from France, and were therefore dangerous. I added that you relied on his Excellency to continue without hesitation to pursue a policy of joint action with France on all points in Morocco, whereby in your opinion complications could best be avoided.

Señor Gullon said that the French were not easy to work with, but that it was his intention to co-operate cordially with them.

[38759] No. 149.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 18.)

(No. 110.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, November 18, 1906.*

SULTAN'S interpretations of Algeciras Act.

With reference to the telegram from His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier, No. 65 of the 17th instant, I have to report that the French Ambassador is again consulting his Government on the subject of the manner of communicating the replies to the Sultan, as I mentioned to his Excellency that I had heard that M. Regnault was not convinced of the wisdom of asking Spain to act as the channel of communication.

[38944] No. 150.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 19.)

(No. 67.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 19, 1906.*

M. REGNAULT informs me that he has learned from the Spanish Minister that Germany and Austria have replied that the Diplomatic Body should discuss the points raised; should this be the case, the French Minister is not inclined to depart from the opinion he has already expressed (*vide* my telegram No. 65).

From the last paragraph of Sir M. de Bunsen's telegram No. 108 it would, however, appear that both Austria and Germany agree to their rejection. Should this be so, M. Regnault is of opinion that as little delay as possible should be allowed to occur in the transmission of the replies by Spain.

I told the French Minister that my opinion coincided with his, and I gathered from him that the Spanish Minister has also concurred.

[38961] No. 151.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 20.)

(No. 458.)

Sir, *Paris, November 19, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, on the receipt of your telegram No. 295 of the 16th instant, I apprized M. Pichon of the instruction which you were ready to send to His Majesty's Ambassador in Madrid in the event of the Spanish Minister at Tangier declining to be the channel for a communication to the Makhzen.

M. Pichon has to-day informed me that instructions similar to those contemplated by you have been sent to the French Ambassador at Madrid.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[38944] No. 152.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 296.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, November 20, 1906.*

MOORISH interpretation of Algeciras Act.

Mr. White's telegram No. 67 of yesterday.

We do not propose to send any further instructions in this matter to Tangier until we learn the manner in which the French Government regard the proposals of their Representative at Tangier, as reported in Mr. White's telegram No. 65 of the 17th instant.

[39155] No. 153.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 21.)

(No. 119.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Paris, November 21, 1906.*

I HAVE seen the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject referred to in the telegrams from Tangier Nos. 65 and 67, dated November 17 and 19 respectively. The Government of the Republic maintain the instructions sent to the French Representative at Tangier, *i.e.*, that he should concert with the Spanish and British Representatives there the terms of the note to be addressed to the Moorish Government declining to take into consideration the reserves made by the Sultan to the Algeciras Act, the Spanish Representative at Tangier to address such note to the Moorish Government, since the Spanish Ambassadors at Paris and at London communicated the Sultan's reserves to the British and French Governments.

The French Minister for Foreign Affairs hopes that you will authorize Sir M. de Bunsen to support the French Ambassador at Madrid in advocating, with the Spanish Government, this mode of procedure, and that you will also give the necessary instructions accordingly to the British Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier.

[39156] No. 154.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 21.)

(No. 120. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Paris, November 21, 1906.*

I WAS informed by M. Pichon this morning that it was yesterday decided by the French Cabinet that, in view of the possibility of danger to the lives of Europeans,

arising from the state of affairs in and around Tangier, arrangements must be made with Spain for landing troops as a temporary measure for the maintenance of order in case of necessity; that to land portions of ships' crews would not be sufficient, and that the Spanish and French Governments must consequently be prepared to dispatch some troops. The French Government could send to Tangier about 1,000 men whom they have on the Algerian frontier, and they hope that Spain will be prepared to send troops from Cadiz.

As soon as the French Government have come to terms with the Spanish Government, they propose that a circular shall be addressed to all the Powers by the two Governments, bringing to their knowledge the steps to be taken to meet eventualities. M. Pichon trusts that the proposed action of the French Government will be concurred in by His Majesty's Government, and that the latter will support them at Madrid in the event of hesitation being shown by the Spanish Government, which he hopes will not be the case, in view of the French Ambassador's recent audience of the King of Spain.

[39159] No. 155.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 21.)

(No. 111.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, November 21, 1906.*

THIS morning's papers announce the immediate dispatch from Cadiz to Tangier of the Spanish battle-ship "Pelayo" with the "Princesa de Asturias" for the purpose of co-operating with the French vessels in keeping order, should necessity arise to land a force. The "Pelayo" carries a detachment of Marines.

I am informed by the French Ambassador that he has done no more than prepare the ground here for this action, which has been concerted at Paris. M. Cambon thinks that the hesitation of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs has been overcome by his own conversation with the King of Spain, as also by my representations to the Spanish Government of the importance which His Majesty's Government attach to France and Spain acting in cordial agreement, and his Excellency congratulates himself on the result.

The necessity urged by the French Minister at Tangier for a display of force has also received the concurrence of his Spanish colleague.

With the exception of the "Correspondencia," which the French Ambassador believes to be in the pay of Germany, the Spanish press on the whole favours the action taken. This paper, however, protests loudly this morning against the employment of a single Spanish soldier or peseta in Morocco. The possibility of an incident arising at any moment which would bring about German intervention is, in the opinion of M. Cambon, the chief reason for desiring the dispatch of a force to Tangier. The presence of the French and Spaniards would thus forestall German action and afford evidence that the police duties undertaken by France and Spain at Algeciras will be duly carried out.

The report that the Atlantic Fleet is preparing to participate in the demonstration is again published in the Spanish press.

[39156] No. 156.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 298.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, November 21, 1906.*

IF it should prove necessary to land troops at Tangier, we are ready to concur in this being done.

Please inform Minister for Foreign Affairs with reference to his statement reported in your Excellency's telegram No. 120 of to-day.

[39155] No. 157.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. White.

(No. 35.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, November* 21, 1906.

MOORISH interpretation of Algeciras Act.

I am informed that Spanish Minister at Tangier has been instructed to act in agreement with you and the French Representative. You should concert with the latter and urge your Spanish colleague to reply to the Moorish Government in the sense suggested in Sir F. Bertie's telegram No. 119 of to-day's date.

[39276] No. 158.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 144.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 21, 1906.

THE Spanish Ambassador observed to-day that I had given a reply to a question on the subject of Morocco in the House of Commons lately.

I said that in reply to more than one question I had stated that the two Powers chiefly concerned with Tangier were in communication as to the steps to be taken, if necessary, to preserve order. These two Powers were, of course, France and Spain. It was most desirable that they should be in complete accord and ready to take whatever measures might be required. This was the surest way of preventing interference by any one else, and they might rely on our support whenever they needed it. What we wished was to see France and Spain n complete agreement and acting together.

The Ambassador told me that inistructions had been sent to the Spanish Minister at Tangier to act in agreement with his French and British colleagues as to the time and manner of making a communication to the Maghzen on the subject of the Sultan's construction of parts of the Algeciras Acts.

I said that our idea had been that the Spanish Minister should make the communication, as it was to Spain that the Sultan's remarks had been communicated.

The Ambassador replied that the Spanish Minister had been instructed to act in entire agreement with his French and British colleagues.

I said I had no doubt this would be satisfactory.

The Ambassador went on to say that he wished to mention informally to me that the Spanish Government had been a little puzzled by an identic communication made to them by the French and British Embassies at Madrid early in September, to the effect that it was hoped Spain would abide by her engagements with regard to Morocco. His Government were a little hurt by the thought that this communication might have implied a doubt as to Spain's intentions. His Government had also thought that the communication might mean a proposal for a new *entente*.

I said I did not recall the exact circumstances which led to this communication. I remembered that something of the kind had been sent, but probably its motive was to assure the Spanish Government that, though the Algeciras Conference was over, France and England were still in as close agreement as ever with regard to Morocco, and they hoped the Spanish Government would make one ot three in the matter.

I had always held that for the Powers chiefly interested in the Mediterranean to hold together and act harmoniously was the surest way of preserving the *status quo* and preventing any political disturbances. Those Powers were Spain, France, Italy, and ourselves. The position of Italy was no doubt more difficult than that of the other three, because she was a member of the Triple Alliance. But it had been shown that the Triple Alliance did not cover the whole field of diplomacy, and the fact that Italy was on good terms with France had contributed to the stability of Mediterranean affairs. We had our own Agreement with France about Morocco, and so had Spain. It was therefore most natural that we should all act together in Moroccan affairs. It was for France and Spain, who had direct interests in the country, to act when necessary, and they might be sure of always having our support if required.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[39274] No. 159.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 22.)

(No. 112. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, November* 22, 1906.

THE French Ambassador informs me that the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs demurs to the French demands that the contemplated communication to the Powers explaining the objects and intentions of France and Spain in Morocco should be in identic terms, and that the joint force to be landed at Tangier should be commanded by a French officer. Señor Gullon has consented very reluctantly to take part in the present action, and M. Cambon is still far from satisfied with his attitude. The above two points have been reserved by the Minister for Foreign Affairs for consideration. I am continuing to impress on the latter, who is weak and vacillating, the necessity for unhesitating co-operation with France. It is, however, the French Ambassador's firm conviction that Señor Gullon is unduly influenced by the German theory that nothing has occurred in Morocco to call for a demonstration of force.

It is probable that there will shortly be a change of Government.

[39279] No. 160.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 22.)

(No. 68.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 22, 1906.

AUTHORIZATION having been received by all the Representatives to enter upon discussions unofficially, the 24th instant has been fixed for a meeting at which a preliminary exchange of views will take place without the Moorish Delegates.

At this meeting it is proposed to discuss the question of the place at which the meetings shall be held and that of the presidency.

It has been customary for years past to hold such meetings in the Legation of the Doyen, who presides, and the French Minister and most of the foreign Representatives, including myself, consider it important that that custom should be adhered to in this case, although the Moorish Government has prepared a house for the purpose.

The Portuguese Minister will become Dean next week on the departure of the Italian Minister.

[39280] No. 161.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 22.)

(No. 69.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 22, 1906.

A TELEGRAM, emanating from London, has been published in a local paper to the effect that a British fleet is being sent to Tangier, which report is stated to have been confirmed by the First Lord of the Admiralty.

In reply to inquiries by the French Minister and the French Admiral, I told them I had received no information of any intended visit of a British fleet, and that I was convinced that there was no truth in the rumour.

[39281] No. 162.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 22.)

(No. 70. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 22, 1906.

THE Spanish battle-ship "Pelayo" and cruiser "Doña Maria de Molina" arrived here yesterday and joined the cruiser "Princesa de Asturias," which is still in the Bay.

The Spanish Minister informed the French Minister that the "Pelayo" has on board a General in command of the troops she carries.

French Minister thinks this is a manœuvre on the part of the Spanish Government

to obtain command of the troops here, and he hopes that the Spanish General may be instructed to withdraw, as by the proposal submitted to the French Government by the Spanish Ambassador at Paris, the French were to have command of the police at Tangier, while Spain was to command those at Dar-al-Baida.

M. Regnault is of opinion that the ships which were here before would have been able to land a sufficient force to restore order temporarily, and that should reinforcements be necessary they could soon be brought from Algeria and Spain, and he regrets the arrival of these additional ships.

There is a possibility that Raisuli may become alarmed at this large naval demonstration, and may capture a European to hold as hostage while he demands the withdrawal of the ships, especially if he hears it is intended to land troops.

[39286] No. 163.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 23.)

(No. 464.)

Sir, *Paris, November* 21, 1906.

M. PICHON sent word to the foreign Representatives yesterday that, as he would have to be at the Senate this afternoon for a debate on the Franco-Swiss Treaty of Commerce, he would not be able to receive them.

As I wished to obtain from him some information in regard to the Bagdad Railway which he had promised me to endeavour to procure, I asked him to receive me this morning, and when I called on his Excellency he told me that he had been much puzzled by a telegram from the French Minister at Tangier, which stated that he had been informed by his Spanish colleague that he had learnt from Madrid that Germany and England considered that the terms of the reply to be returned to the Moorish Government in regard to the Sultan's reserves should be referred to the Diplomatic Body at Tangier.

I assured M. Pichon that the information must be a misapprehension. No such view had been expressed by you. The French Minister at Tangier had been inclined, so his British colleague had telegraphed, to doubt the expediency of the French, British, and Spanish Governments replying immediately to the Moorish Government by note from the Spanish Representative, but you had been quite ready to support what you had understood to be the desire of the French Government, viz., that the Spanish Representative should reply on behalf of France and England, as well as on the part of Spain, by a refusal to accept the Sultan's reserves. I asked, therefore, what the French Government now desired.

M. Pichon replied that the French Government maintained their view, and would so telegraph to the French Minister, informing him that His Majesty's Government had not expressed the opinion that the reply to the Moorish Government should be considered by the Diplomatic Body at Tangier.

On my way home from the Quai d'Orsay I was met by a member of the staff of the Embassy with a decypher of your message No. 296 of yesterday and of Mr. White's telegram No. 67 of the 19th instant. I therefore returned to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and again saw M. Pichon, and communicated to him their contents, as well as the information in Mr. White's telegram No. 65 of the 17th instant. His Excellency sent for M. Louis, and they came to the conclusion that there had been an error in the cyphering or decyphering of the telegram from the French Minister at Tangier, and that "Angleterre" had been substituted for "Autriche," and that it was Germany and Austria, and not Germany and England, who were represented as favouring a reference to the Diplomatic Body at Tangier of the terms of the reply to be made to the Moorish Government.

M. Pichon confirmed what he had already on my first visit said as to the desire of the French Government, and he requested me to inform you that he will telegraph to the French Minister at Tangier to say that the French Government maintain the instructions already given to him, viz., to concert with his British and Spanish colleagues the terms of the note to the Moorish Government refusing to consider the Sultan's reserves to the Algeciras Act, such note to be addressed to the Sultan's Government by the Spanish Representative, inasmuch as His Majesty's reserves were communicated to the French and British Governments by the Spanish Ambassadors at Paris and London.

M. Pichon will be grateful if you will give instructions to the British Representative to concert with his French colleague to the effect indicated in the instructions

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[32145] No. 162*.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. White.

(No. 138.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 22, 1906.

IN your despatch No. 169 of the 15th September last you inclosed a translation of a letter addressed to Ben Sliman by the doyen of the Diplomatic Body, urging a reconsideration by the Sultan of his attitude in regard to the abolition of slavery in the Moorish Empire.

I should be glad to know whether any reply has been returned to this note, and, if not, whether it is proposed to approach the Moorish Government again on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

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sent by the French Government, and if you will direct His Majesty's Ambassador at Madrid to support his French colleague, if requisite, in urging the adoption by the Spanish Government of the manner of proceeding at Tangier desired by the French Government.

I have had the honour of telegraphing to you the substance of my present despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[39379] No. 164.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 23.)

(No. 113.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, November* 23, 1906.

WITH reference to Sir F. Bertie's telegram No. 120 dealing with the policy of France in regard to action in Morocco, I have the honour to report that the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs has been furnished with a Memorandum by the French Ambassador inviting the concurrence of the Spanish Government in that policy. According to this Memorandum the two Powers should avail themselves of the presence at Tangier of their armed forces to commence the organization of the police. Thus they need not await the constitution of the State Bank, the necessary funds being advanced by the respective Governments, to be refunded hereafter by the State Bank.

It is further proposed that, any troops which may have to be landed should be withdrawn as soon as possible, and, at any rate, as soon as the police organization provided by the General Act has been completed. Neither the French nor the Spanish flag should be displayed ashore, and it should be the object of both Powers to show every consideration to the Sultan's Representative at Tangier.

The dispatch of a force of 400 Spanish marines to Tangier in vessels accompanying the "Pelayo" shows that the above proposals have been already accepted in principle. A Council of Ministers held last night was to consider them in detail.

M. Cambon tells me that the Minister for Foreign Affairs is in a better frame of mind, and is beginning to realize the situation.

There has been an interpellation on the subject in the Chamber of Deputies, which drew forth an explanation from Señor Gullon; and the Minister for War is asking for a credit of 10,000*l*. in case it should be necessary to dispatch an additional force of marines.

[39389] No. 165.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 23.)

(No. 114.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, November* 23, 1906.

THE Minister for Foreign Affairs asked me to-day if he might tell the King that the present action of the Spanish Government in Morocco has the approval of His Majesty's Government. His Excellency said that though anxious to act with France, he was still more anxious to please England. I observed that His Majesty's Government would approve of his action if a close agreement with France is maintained, this being the important point.

Señor Gullon had been disagreeably impressed by a conversation with the Austrian Ambassador, who said, probably after an interview with his German colleague, that Spain had infringed the Act of Algeciras. I may observe that this view is adopted by some of the leading newspapers, who are afraid of Spain being led into an adventure.

As for the German Ambassador, his sole remark to Señor Gullon has so far been that Germany awaits the explanations which are about to be offered by an identic Circular.

I informed the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the non-participation of the Atlantic fleet in the naval demonstration, as instructed by your telegram No. 63.

[39365] No. 166.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 23.)

(No. 71.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 23, 1906.*

THE French Minister has received a telegram from Paris which he has read to me. It is to the effect that his Government maintain the view that the replies to the Moorish Government should be communicated through the Spanish Government, but consider that those replies need not necessarily be communicated at once. The French Government also consider that unanimity of the Powers might be arrived at through the negotiations which are now taking place, but in any case Spanish Government should at least communicate our replies. As regards concerting the terms of the reply M. Regnault is without instructions.

[39387] No. 167.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 23.)

(No. 72.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 23, 1906.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 68 of the 22nd instant, the French Minister will raise the question of public security at the meeting which is to be held to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, and he tells me that he is very anxious for my support in the suggestions he intends to make. He will propose that a firmly worded note be addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and in support of his proposal will recapitulate incidents which have recently occurred here. In that note a demand will be made that measures be taken to put an end to the present state of things. He is also going to propose that the Consular Body at Fez shall be instructed to demand an audience of the Sultan to emphasize the note. I informed him that I would report the matter to you, and, should I not previously receive instructions to the contrary, would support those proposals, notwithstanding that it is not usual for the British Vice-Consul to request an audience of the Sultan.

[39274] No. 168.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 65.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, November 23, 1906.*

MEASURES of protection at Tangier.

Your telegram No. 112 of yesterday.

We consider it of the greatest importance that joint action should be arranged by the Spanish and French Governments. If it becomes necessary, which may not be the case, to land a force for the protection of the Tangier community, the two Governments must take united and unhesitating action, for failing to do so will supply a pretext for, and even render necessary, intervention by some one or more of the other Powers to afford their own subjects protection.

In order not to give any third Power an excuse to dispatch a force to Tangier, we have decided not to do so ourselves; but if Spain acts with France in this matter she may count upon receiving our diplomatic and moral support should she require it.

Should your French colleague, finding himself in difficulties, apply to you for support, your Excellency should make the Spanish Government clearly understand the attitude of His Majesty's Government in the matter as set forth above. I have already explained this attitude to the Spanish Ambassador here.

[39398] No. 169.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 24.)

(No. 209.)
Sir, *Tangier, November 17, 1906.*

I HAVE had some conversation with the French Minister on the subject of the precautionary measures it is proposed to take with a view to protecting the lives and properties of Europeans at Tangier in the event of disturbances occurring.

M. Regnault, who has not yet had an opportunity of going thoroughly into the matter with the Spanish Minister and settling a definite plan of action, is of opinion that the presence of the French and Spanish men-of-war in the bay is sufficient guarantee for the security of Europeans without the necessity of landing any men unless disturbances should actually occur endangering the lives or properties of the foreign population.

Public opinion has been to some extent reassured lately, and the state of nervous tension which existed a short time since has undoubtedly diminished. On the other hand, the attitude of Moors towards Christians cannot be said to have undergone much change for the better, and though there is certainly no concerted anti-Christian movement amongst them and no plan formed for an attack on the European population, it must not be lost sight of that there is always a possibility of such an attack arising spontaneously out of some slight incident. Should disturbances of this nature occur, M. Regnault is of opinion that as strong a force as possible should at once be landed from the French and Spanish cruisers.

This measure would undoubtedly be sufficient for restoring order at the moment, and should it be found that the landing of these men caused any popular outburst amongst the Moors—as it is anticipated by some that it would—and that there was any danger of further trouble, reinforcements would at once be sent from Spain and Algeria.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[39399] No. 170.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 24.)

(No. 210.)
Sir, *Tangier, November 17, 1906.*

A REPORT which was current here, and subsequently appeared in the press, to the effect that the Atlantic squadron was coming to Tangier, created a certain amount of stir at Tangier. The Councillor of the German Legation called to inquire whether the report was true, and the following day Count Saint-Aulaire came to see me with the same object, informing me that M. Regnault, who had just arrived, had heard the report that afternoon when passing through Algeciras.

I informed Count Saint-Aulaire that I had no information on the subject, and was therefore convinced that there was no foundation for the report; and I added that had I heard that British ships of war were about to visit Tangier I should certainly have informed him.

M. Regnault mentioned the report to-day in the course of conversation, referring to your denial of it in the House of Commons, and observed that, whilst the co-operation of our ships would be most acceptable in the case of necessity, he was of opinion that it would be better that their own ships and those of Spain should be here alone for the present, lest other Powers should be encouraged to send ships also.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[39400] No. 171.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 24.)

(No. 211.)
Sir, *Tangier, November 17, 1906.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 202 of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to report that, not having received from the Sultan his appointment as Governor of Arzila, Raisuli suddenly withdrew from that place with his following and returned to his own village of Zinat, leaving Arzila practically unprotected except by its walls, as the Governor and all the soldiers had fled.

Raisuli's motives have been variously interpreted, some thinking that in leaving Arzila thus unprotected he hopes that the neighbouring mountaineers may come down and pillage the town and he may thus again be appealed to as the only person capable of restoring order, and that the Sultan will be obliged to appoint him Governor. If this was really Raisuli's plan, it is quite possible that it may succeed; there are, in fact, already rumours that the Beni Aros are meditating a raid on Arzila.

On the other hand, in view of the hesitation of the Sultan in naming him Governor of Arzila, Raisuli may have felt suspicious of the Makhzen's intentions in regard to himself and may have thought he would be safer at Zinat than within the walls of Arzila.

In the meantime Raisuli is making preparations for keeping in great style to-morrow's feast at the close of Ramadan. He has sent round a public crier ordering all the people to come out to pray and keep the feast at Zinat, instead of at Tangier as usual. The Governor of Tangier will thus have a small concourse of townspeople and troops at the public prayers at which he presides held just outside the town.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[39401] No. 172.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 24.)

(No. 212.)

Sir, *Tangier, November 17, 1906.*

WHEN calling upon the French Minister this morning I was discussing with him the question of the communication to be made to the Moorish Government in reply to the interpretation they had sought to place upon certain Articles of the Algeciras Act.

M. Regnault had spoken to the Spanish Minister on the subject and shared my impression that the Spanish Government are unwilling to be the channel of the communication.

I informed M. Regnault that should M. Llaveria refuse to make the communication I was instructed to report to you in order that representations on the subject might be made at Madrid. The Spanish Government, as I gathered from what M. Llaveria had said, felt that they could not communicate the replies received from some of the Powers without at the same time communicating those of the others, as the replies were not all in the same sense.

M. Regnault expressed the opinion that it would be preferable not to press M Llaveria to communicate the replies to the Moorish Government, as the German and Austrian Governments are believed to have suggested the matter being discussed by the Representatives at Tangier.

Should Cid Mokri bring forward the matter at any of the meetings which will probably shortly be held M. Regnault will at once state that he has no cognizance of it nor any instructions from his Government on the subject, and that it is not one that can be brought forward. He considers that it would be imprudent even to say that his Government decline to discuss the matter, as to do so might of itself give an opening for discussion.

I informed M. Regnault that I should report his views to you, and should not take any steps towards inducing M. Llaveria to communicate the replies to the Moorish Government pending the receipt of further instructions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[39402] No. 173.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 24.)

(No. 213. Confidential.)

Sir, *Tangier, November 17, 1906.*

WITH reference to Sir M. de Bunsen's telegram No. 106 of the 14th instant, I have the honour to report that the French Minister informed me confidentially that he had been instructed to return to Tangier viâ Madrid, in order to have an opportunity of discussing with the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs the question of the police and the measures to be adopted for insuring the security of foreigners at Tangier, but that on arrival at Madrid he learnt that the matter was already under discussion between his Government and the Spanish Ambassador at Paris, and that, therefore, there was no necessity for him to remain at Madrid. He consequently came straight through to Tangier, arriving sooner than was expected.

The French Ambassador at Madrid was under a misapprehension when he spoke

of a French citizen having been assaulted in front of the French Legation here, as no such incident has occurred. A Frenchman riding back to the town late in the evening was fired at on the beach by a Moorish guard, who alleges that he fired in the air after receiving no reply to his challenge. He has been put in prison by the authorities. The only other incident that occurred at that time was the arrest by some of Raisuli's men of a Frenchman who was surveying some land together with another Frenchman who had just arrived at Tangier, and who fled on seeing himself surrounded by armed Moors. It appears that the surveying instruments were mistaken for cameras, and the Frenchman was conveyed under arrest to the Legation and charged with photographing some village girls who happened to be standing by. On the mistake being explained, the surveyors were permitted to return to their work and a guard provided for their protection.

Neither of these incidents occurred close to the French Legation, nor were they of sufficient importance to hasten the return of M. Regnault.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[39431] No. 174.

Post Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 24.)

Sir, *General Post Office, November 23, 1906.*

WITH reference to your letter of the 26th ultimo concerning the British postal service in Morocco, I am directed by the Postmaster-General to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that it has now been arranged for Mr. Arthur Lewis Wilson to leave this country for Tangier about the end of the present month for the purpose of reorganizing the system.

Mr. Wilson will communicate in advance with the various Consul Postmasters, giving them particulars of the improved courier services, and asking them to proceed with arrangements for the introduction of the new services on the 1st January next.

In order that the hearty co-operation of the officers concerned may be assured, the Postmaster-General would be obliged if Sir Edward Grey would cause the Consuls to be informed that the Imperial Post Office has decided to take over the postal service in Morocco; that the Postmaster-General will take steps formally to appoint them as his Agents or Acting Agents; and that Mr. Wilson has been deputed to carry out the reorganization.

It would also be well, in the Postmaster-General's opinion, if Mr. Lennox, the British Vice-Consul at Morocco city, could be requested to act as British Postmaster; if Mr. Bewicke could be invited to reopen the British Post Office at Tetuan (closed since 1903), and again to act as Postmaster; and if Mr. Carleton, the British Consular Agent at Alcazar, could be requested to act, at least until other arrangements can be made, as British Postmaster at Alcazar, in order that the proposed acceleration on the Tangier-Fez road may be carried out.

The Postmaster-General assumes that the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the Gibraltar Government, will now be acquainted by the Foreign Office with the action which is being taken in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. BABINGTON SMITH.

[39505] No. 175.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 24.)

(No. 74.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 24, 1906.*

PUBLIC security in Morocco.

At the meeting held this morning the French Minister's proposal reported in my telegram No. 72 was adopted. It was, however, decided that verbal representations be made by the Consular officers at Fez not to the Sultan, but to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

[39506] No. 176.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 24.)

(No. 75.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 24, 1906.

QUESTIONS reserved under Algeciras Act for discussion at Tangier.

At to-day's meeting the 27th November was fixed for commencement of discussions. The meeting will be held at the Portuguese Legation, where the Moorish Delegates will be invited to attend.

The Regulations to be drawn up under Articles 18, 66, and 110, and Articles 71 and 98 of the General Act of Algeciras are, it is generally thought, those which should be taken first into consideration.

[39507] No. 177.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 24.)

(No. 76.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 24, 1906.

REFERRING to my telegram No. 70, the Spanish cruiser "Princesa de Asturias" left this morning for Cadiz, and I am told she will perhaps return after disembarking the troops at that port.

I reported in my telegram above referred to that the "Pelayo" had brought a Spanish General in command of Spanish troops. I am now informed by the Spanish Minister that he is really a Commodore, his rank in Spain being "General de Mar." The error arose from the Spanish Minister referring to him in his conversation with Mr. Regnault as a General.

The Spanish ships now here can, the Spanish Minister informs me, land 400 men, or even 500, if necessary.

[39593] No. 178.

Sir H. Howard to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 26.)

(No. 130. Confidential.)
Sir, *The Hague, November* 22, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that a Bill has been presented to the Second Chamber of the States-General by the Minister for Foreign Affairs to increase the diplomatic estimates for 1907 by 14,200 florins (about 1,183*l.*) so as to establish a Netherland Legation at Tangier, Morocco, where the Netherland Representative is to have the rank of Minister Resident and will also be Consul-General.

I transmit herewith a précis-translation of the usual explanatory Memorandum which accompanied this Bill, and from which it will be seen that the reasons given by M. van Tets for the proposed Legation at Tangier are briefly as follows:—

Owing to the inconsiderable extent of the relations between the Netherlands and Morocco, Dutch interests in the latter country have for many years been entrusted to a Representative of one of the foreign Powers at Tangier, and lastly to the German Legation; but now that the General Act of Algeciras will probably shortly come into operation, the said interests can, his Excellency thinks, no longer be advanced by a foreign Legation. The foreign Representatives at Tangier will soon have much business to settle, sometimes of a delicate nature, and in this connection M. van Tets points out the difficulty which may arise if in the course of their deliberations a member of the Diplomatic Corps would, as the Representative of two Powers, have to cast two votes, and these were, according to his respective instructions, not to be in the same sense.

His Excellency is further of opinion that now that diplomatic work at Tangier is to be so greatly increased, the Netherlands should no longer make use of the so highly valued services of the German Legation, and on these grounds he considers that it is decidedly necessary for the Netherlands to have a Representative of their own in Morocco, as is the case with Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Portugal, Russia, Spain, and the United States of America. M. van Tets then goes on to say that it stands to reason that such an independent representation of

the Netherlands at Tangier cannot fail to be productive of good results for Netherland interests in Morocco, in which connection the Dutch capital in the new Morocco State Bank must not be lost sight of, and he concludes by giving the rank and the salaries to be assigned to the Minister and the staff of the proposed Legation.

The reasons given by his Excellency for the new Legation at Tangier are probably in themselves all-sufficient to assure the approval of his proposal by the States-General, but what is best calculated to make this assurance doubly sure is the undoubted dislike of the people of this country to the representation of the Netherlands by Germany in Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 178.

Explanatory Memorandum: Second Chamber.

(Translation.)

FOR many years the care of Dutch interests in Morocco has been entrusted to a Representative of foreign Powers at Tangier, lastly to the German Legation. The paucity of the relations between our country and the Shereefian State led to a local Representative of our own being considered superfluous, also with regard to the attendant expenses.

Now that the General Act of Algeciras will, in all probability, shortly come into operation, the Minister is of opinion that our interests there can no longer be promoted by a foreign Legation. The Diplomatic Corps at Tangier will soon have many business matters to settle, a summary of which is given by the Minister, in connection with which delicate questions may often arise. Whilst there would already be special difficulties if in the discussions of the Diplomatic Corps one of the members might have to give a double vote, whereby there might still be the possibility that these votes would not in all cases be in the same spirit, the Minister thinks that now diplomatic labours at Tangier will increase so greatly, the so highly valued services of the German Legation should no longer be made use of. On these grounds the Minister considers that a Representative of our own at Tangier, as is the case with Belgium, France, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, Russia, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and the United States of America, is decidedly necessary.

It stands, too, to reason that such an independent representation of the Netherlands at Tangier cannot fail to be productive of good results for our commercial interests in Morocco, in which connection the Dutch capital in the New Morocco State Bank must not be lost sight of.

For the occupation of the new post the Minister considers an official necessary with the rank of Minister Resident, who, like most of his colleagues at Tangier, should also have to be Consul-General, with regard to the Royal Decree or the 29th August, 1894, which, in connection with Articles I and X of the Consular Law, gives to the Consular officer at Tangier judicial and legislative rights, together with the competency to draw up all acts appertaining to the état civil, and other civil acts.

To the Minister will also have to be attached a dragoman, whilst a couple of cavasses will also be required.

It is proposed to fix the annual salary of the Minister at 10,000 florins, and to give the Dragoman one of 3,000 florins, whilst for the two cavasses 1,200 florins will be required, to meet which expenses the present Bill serves.

The undersigned would gladly have asked at the same time for a grant for the repair of the ancient building at Tangier belonging to the State of the Netherlands ever since the Republic. The Delft Professor, Dr. J. Kloppert, at the request of the undersigned kindly made his summer voyage subservient to an examination of the edifice, from which it appears that the building is still in a fit state to accommodate the Mission, though a certain expenditure is unavoidable; an estimate, however, of the sum required cannot as yet be given. The undersigned will make further proposals on the subject as soon as possible.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs,
(Signed) VAN TETS VAN GOUDRIAAN.

[39740] No. 179.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 26.)

(No. 211.)

Sir, *Madrid, November 23, 1906.*

THE decision of the French and Spanish Governments to send a force to Tangier to be landed if necessary has been made the subject of questions in the Spanish Chamber of Deputies.

In reply to the Conde de San Luis, the Minister of Marine (Señor Alvarado), said on the 21st instant that it was true the "Pelayo" had been dispatched to Tangier, but this need frighten no one, as the "Pelayo" is the third Spanish ship of war which has proceeded to Tangier in the course of the last few months. The events of Arcila had led to the dispatch of the "Maria de Molina" to those waters, and on the 5th instant the "Princesa de Asturias," a much larger vessel, had proceeded to Tangier, and had remained there ever since without causing the slightest apprehension. The Government is only adopting measures which will enable it to accomplish the duties imposed on Spain at the Conference of Algeciras. Both the "Princesa de Asturias" and the "Pelayo" had on board a body of marines which could be landed.

On the 22nd instant Señor Gullon, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, replied to a further question by Señor Romeo as to the particular Articles of the General Act of Algeciras under which the Government was acting. His Excellency said that Articles 3 and 4 were the ones in point. By them Spain was not only authorized, but actually commissioned, to co-operate with France in instructing and organizing a new police force in the eight open ports of Morocco. He regarded this as a most honourable charge, involving a recognition of the acquired rights of Spain in that country. In fulfilment of this duty, Spain had already sent a ship to the Morocco coast in connection with the Arcila incident. The precautions thus taken have now been somewhat extended, but all has been done in the most prudent and considerate manner, avoiding any just cause of offence to any one. Señor Gullon hoped he would not be pressed to go further into detail on this delicate question of the day.

Señor Romeo asked for further explanations. He had read the Articles referred to, and could not see what they had to do with naval demonstrations at Tangier.

Señor Gullon replied that the proper time to discuss questions arising out of the General Act would be when the Senate sends down to the Chamber of Deputies the Bill granting authority to ratify the General Act.

The Minister of War has demanded a credit of 260,000 pesetas (10,000*l.*) to cover the cost of preparations for the possible necessity of sending a further force to Tangier. It is said 1,500 men of the infantry of marine are ready to embark at Cadiz, Ferrol, and Cartagena if occasion should arise.

I have, &c.
(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

[39827] No. 180.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 26.)

(No. 77.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 26, 1906.*

HAVING heard that the Moorish Government are making a new contract for a road and an embankment to run from the mole to the beach outside the town walls, and that the concessionnaires are to be the German Company who are building the mole, I inquired of the German Minister this morning if this was true.

Dr. Rosen said that no new contract was being made, but added that when the German Emperor was here he requested that a Concession for all the port works at Laraiche and Tangier should be granted to Germany, and that His Majesty's request had been complied with. Dr. Rosen referred to the reserve that had been made at Algeciras respecting works to be constructed at these ports and at the two ports where similar Concessions had been granted to France.

I observed that I had not understood the reserve to apply to future works, but only to contracts already signed or under negotiation. Dr. Rosen, however, maintained that it included all future works as well.

The French Minister, with whom I have spoken on the subject, considers that Germany will acquire important interests at Tangier if she obtains all future works here, and that this claim of hers cannot be permitted.

[39852] No. 181.

Mr. Lister to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 27.)

(No. 472.)

Sir, *Paris, November 26, 1906.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 470 of yesterday, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, extracted from the "Temps" of yesterday evening, a communiqué on the subject of the joint action of France and Spain in sending a force to Tangier. It rectifies the information contained in the papers of yesterday morning, that the three battle-ships from Toulon were to join the French war-ships at present off Tangier, and states that they are to replace them.

The rest of the communiqué is devoted to an explanation of the reasons which have led to joint action on the part of France and Spain, and of the strictly limited character of the measures contemplated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. LISTER.

Inclosure in No. 181.

Extract from the "Temps" of November 26, 1906.

LE GOUVERNEMENT ET LE MAROC.

LES journaux du matin donnent sur l'action navale préparée au Maroc par le Gouvernement des renseignements inexacts, sur l'action diplomatique poursuivie à Madrid des renseignements incomplets. Il convient de rectifier les premiers et de compléter les seconds.

1. *Envoi d'une force navale.*

Une dépêche de Toulon, publiée aujourd'hui par un de nos confrères, porte que le "Suffren," le "Saint-Louis," et le "Charlemagne" vont partir dès ce soir pour rejoindre devant Tanger la "Jeanne-d'Arc," le "Galilée," et le "Forbin," et qu'ainsi nos forces navales comprendront trois cuirassés, un croiseur cuirassé, et deux croiseurs. Cette information n'est pas exacte.

Le "Suffren," le "Saint-Louis," et le "Charlemagne" partiront pour Tanger à une date qui n'est pas encore fixée. Mais au lieu d'y "rejoindre" les trois bâtiments qui s'y trouvent actuellement, ils les y remplaceront. On a décidé cette substitution pour avoir au Maroc des navires "frais" qui ne soient pas fatigués par un long séjour à la mer.

Le "Suffren," le "Charlemagne," et le "Saint-Louis" n'emmèneront que leurs effectifs pleins. On a parlé de détachements envoyés de Lorient. Ce sont simplement les fusiliers qui, chaque année à cette époque, rallient les escadres après l'achèvement des cours de l'école de Lorient, qui réglementairement se terminent le 1er Novembre.

Le transport "Nive" accompagnera la division. Contrairement à ce qu'on a dit, il n'aura à son bord aucune troupe métropolitaine ni d'infanterie coloniale, et sera simplement à la disposition du Commandant en Chef pour effectuer, dans les conditions qui vont être expliquées ci-dessous, les transports qui pourraient devenir nécessaires.

Enfin, l'Amiral Touchard, qui commandera la division, et dont les journaux du matin annoncent le retour à Toulon pour aujourd'hui à midi, ne quittera Paris que demain soir Lundi.

2. *Négociations avec l'Espagne.*

Le "Temps" a publié hier, dans ses dernières nouvelles, la note suivante, communiquée à l'issue du Conseil des Ministres :—

"M. Pichon, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, a fait connaître qu'il poursuivait des pourparlers avec l'Espagne en vue d'une entente complète sur les mesures éven-

tuelles qui pourraient s'imposer aux deux Puissances chargées de l'établissement de la police à Tanger pour assurer l'ordre dans cette ville. Il y a tout lieu de croire que cette entente, déjà faite en principe, s'effectuera incessamment."

Cette note officielle demande à être expliquée.

Les Gouvernements Français et Espagnol ont été chargés par l'Acte Final d'Algésiras de fournir des cadres à la police des huit ports Marocains ouverts au commerce. Ces cadres doivent être, aux termes de l'Article XII, Espagnols à Tétouan et à Larache, Français à Rabat, Safi, Mogador, et Mazagan, mixtes à Casa Blanca et à Tanger. Il ne s'agit actuellement que de Tanger.

Les deux Gouvernements ont pensé qu'en présence de l'insécurité qui règne dans cette ville et de l'impuissance absolue des autorités Chérifiennes en face d'Erraissouli, ils devaient être absolument prêts à sauvegarder, si besoin était, les biens et la vie des Européens. Ils estiment que, même avant la ratification, ils ont une responsabilité morale, à laquelle ils ne sauraient se dérober.

Ils ont donc décidé d'étudier de concert les précautions à prendre. Dès que cet accord, qui est dès maintenant acquis en principe, aura été rédigé, il sera communiqué par les Ambassadeurs d'Espagne et de France dans les différentes capitales aux dix autres Puissances signataires de l'Acte Final. Plusieurs de ces Puissances ont pris les devants et fait connaître à l'avance leur approbation. On ne prévoit d'objections de la part d'aucune.

3. *Action Franco-Espagnole à Tanger.*

L'action prévue par le concert Franco-Espagnol comportera deux formes appropriées à la gravité des circonstances :—

(*a.*) Présence de bâtiments de guerre, dont les compagnies de débarquement réunies fourniront un effectif d'environ 800 hommes.

(*b.*) Si la situation l'exigeait, envoi de corps de débarquement s'élevant pour chacune des deux Puissances à 1,000 ou 1,200 hommes—soit en tout, avec les fusiliers marins, une force de 3,000 hommes.

Le détachement Espagnol serait prélevé sur la garnison de Cadix ; le détachement Français sur le XIX• Corps d'Armée (Alger), et très probablement sur la division d'Oran. C'est le transport "Nive" qui irait le chercher.

Dans aucun cas les troupes de débarquement ne feraient acte d'occupation. L'objet de leur mission se bornerait à mettre leur appui au service du Pacha de Tanger et à rétablir son autorité ébranlée par Erraissouli. Aucun drapeau Espagnol ou Français ne serait arboré sur les monuments. L'action du contingent mixte serait limitée à Tanger et à sa banlieue, et aurait un caractère purement provisoire.

4. *Ratification de l'Acte Final.*

Dès que la France et l'Espagne seront complètement d'accord et auront fait connaître cet accord aux Puissances intéressées, elles demanderont à leurs Parlements respectifs de ratifier l'Acte Final.

Cette ratification n'a eu lieu jusqu'ici, par ordre de date, que de la part du Maroc, de la Belgique, de la Russie, et de l'Angleterre.

Il convient de répéter que les mesures dont il s'agit sont purement éventuelles. Si elles ne sont pas nécessaires, la France et l'Espagne se borneront à maintenir devant Tanger leurs divisions navales, sans débarquer de fusiliers marins, et à plus forte raison sans amener sur rade de corps de débarquement.

Il est possible que les précautions prises soient inutiles. Il faut le souhaiter. Mais si les Gouvernements avaient négligé de les préparer et que fût survenu un accident, on aurait été fondé à leur reprocher leur insouciance.—GEORGES VILLIERS.

[39967] No. 182.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 27.)

(No. 78.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 27, 1906.

GENERAL Act.

A meeting of the Corps Diplomatique was held this morning.

Three Committees were appointed to draft Regulations under Articles 14 and 18; 61, 71, and 98; 66, 107, 114, and 117 respectively. Each Committee to consist of one Moorish Delegate and three foreign Representatives.

The Committee meetings are to be held at the house put at our disposal by the Sultan, but the plenary meetings at the Doyen's Legation.

The Moorish Delegates undertook, at my suggestion, to request the Sultan to issue the orders necessary for putting Articles 60, 68, and 69 into force immediately after the ratification of the Act.

The decisions were unanimous, and the proceedings harmonious.

[39968] No. 183.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 27.)

(No. 79.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 27, 1906.

THERE was fighting this morning between some Anjera men and the guards at Mr. Harris' house. Both sides were reinforced, but the tribesmen eventually withdrew.

Whether the Anjera men were fired on by the guards when passing the house to raid cattle, or whether they intended an attack on the house, is not clear.

The events were, I understand, watched by the men-of-war, which were ready to take steps to protect the house if the necessity arose.

[40092] No. 184.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 28.)

(No. 80. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 28, 1906.

MEETINGS to be held under Algeciras Act.

The German Minister who represents Sweden here may claim an additional vote for that country. Should he do so, it is desirable that we should claim a vote for Denmark, which was a party to the Madrid Convention of 1880, and I presume will adhere to the Algeciras Act, though she did not take part in the Conference.

I am informing Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs in a despatch that we have begun unofficial discussions, and am inquiring as to the instructions he may desire to give me.

If Danish Government intends to adhere to the Act, it would be well if they expressed at an early date their intention to do so.

[40093] No. 185.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 28.)

(No. 81.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 28, 1906.

I HEAR from Kaïd Sir H. Maclean that Captain Tschudi, wireless telegraph and ballooning expert, who accompanied the German Minister to Fez, is returning there to form an engineer corps.

I have the honour to refer to my despatch No. 204 of the 3rd instant.

[40154] No. 186.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 68.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Foreign Office, November* 28, 1906.

THE Spanish Ambassador tells me that the Spanish Government are most anxious to keep their engagements and to work with France and us, but they fear that French Government are anxious to land troops at Tangier, and may develop such landing into a permanent occupation and more extended operations.

I have replied that I am sure this is not so, and that French do not desire to land a force unless obliged by an emergency, and that all they desire is to have a clear understanding with Spain for this purpose. In my opinion, joint action by France and Spain to preserve *status quo* at Tangier till regular police can be established was necessary to prevent intervention of other Powers, and consequent complications, but France did not desire any more than Spain to force the pace in Morocco at this moment, and would only do what circumstances might require.

It would be well that your French colleague should know this.

[39482] No. 187.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Lister.

(No. 666.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 28, 1906.

THE French Ambassador called at this Office on the 22nd instant and read to Sir C. Hardinge the instructions which had been sent to the French Ambassador at Madrid relating to the joint action to be taken by France and Spain at Tangier. The substance of these instructions was as follows :—

If serious disturbances should occur at Tangier whereby the lives of Europeans were endangered, the French and Spanish war-ships present in that port would disembark 350 men each to maintain order, the chief command being intrusted to the Senior French Officer.

At the same time a battalion would be held in readiness at Oran, and it was hoped that Spain would also have troops in reserve and in readiness in case the 700 men landed at Tangier should be found insufficient for the desired purpose.

The French and Spanish troops would do their utmost to maintain the authority of the Moorish Governor throughout the whole of his district upon which encroachments have lately been made by Raisuli. Neither the French nor the Spanish flag would be hoisted anywhere, and steps would at once be taken to organize the Franco-Spanish police as authorized by the Act of Algeciras. As soon as this police force had been constituted the troops would be re-embarked.

M. Cambon expressed the hope that the Spanish Government would accept these measures, and was informed that I had already concurred in the landing of French troops at Tangier, should such a measure be found necessary.

M. Cambon further stated that, as soon as the Spanish Government had accepted the proposals of the French Government, the two Governments would address the Powers, and acquaint them with the steps which they propose to take.

M. Cambon then reverted to another point in connection with Morocco—viz., the communication which it is proposed to make to the Moorish Government to the effect that Great Britain, France, and Spain refuse to accept the reservations made by the Sultan in regard to certain Articles of the Algeciras Act, but that Germany and Austria accept them. His Excellency pointed out that this would show a lack of unity amongst the Powers, and remarked that no reply was necessary, inasmuch as the Convention of Algeciras had not yet been ratified.

M. Cambon was informed, in reply, that the initiative in this matter had come from the French Government, and that His Majesty's Government had confined their action to instructing their Representatives to support their French colleagues in their manner of proceeding with this question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[40154] No. 188.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 150.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 28, 1906.

THE Spanish Ambassador told me to-day that his Government were apprehensive as to the possible French action at Tangier. They were afraid the French were anxious to land forces, and that, by co-operation with France, Spain might be involved in a permanent military occupation, and perhaps in extended operations.

I said I was sure this fear was groundless. The French felt it absolutely necessary to have a force at Tangier to preserve order in an emergency; to prevent, for instance, Raisuli from occupying the town and killing Europeans. But they did not wish to land troops if it could be avoided. Their only desire at this moment was to preserve the *status quo*, as left by the Algeciras Conference, till such time as the regular Franco-Spanish police could be established. If troops had to be landed now, I was sure they would be withdrawn as soon as the emergency was over, or as soon as the Franco-Spanish police could be brought into operation.

The Ambassador asked whether I thought it possible that the action of France and Spain might lead Germany to send a force as well.

I said Germany would certainly have had to send a force if Tangier had been in danger and France and Spain had not sent one. We were in the same position. As long as I could say that France and Spain were taking measures to guard against emergencies, it was not necessary for us to send a force of our own. If the Germans sent ships we should, of course, send ships too, and the complications of the Algeciras Conference might begin again. But I did not think the Germans meant to send ships; they had said nothing whatever about it, and I had been careful to inform the German Ambassador that there was no truth in the rumour that we were going to send ships to Tangier. The best and only way of avoiding complications was for France and Spain to act together. I was quite sure that France did not now wish to make any new departure, or to turn the troubles at Tangier into a pretext for a more active policy in Morocco. All M. Clémenceau's language had been opposed to such an idea. And, as a matter of fact, if the French had really been eager to land troops, they could already have had any number of pretexts for doing so.

The Ambassador was anxious to know what would happen if Germany proposed to take any action.

I replied that if Germany said anything to us, I would do my utmost to dissuade her from taking any action. And I would tell her that, if she did take any action, we would take the same active part on the side of France as we had at the Algeciras Conference. We did not wish to have any more complications, but if they arose, our action would be just as decided as it had been before.

I was sure, however, that the Spanish Government had misinterpreted the French anxiety in the matter. If the French had appeared at all eager, it was because they desired to have their plans and arrangements for co-operation with Spain cut-and-dried before any emergency arose, and not because they wished to take advantage of an emergency in order to apply strong measures.

The Ambassador said that was all that was required to satisfy his Government. He thanked me for the views I had expressed, and said he would communicate them to his Government, who were much embarrassed by the Parliamentary feeling in Spain against being committed to trouble in Morocco. I said it was desirable that there should be as little action as possible, but I assumed that Spain would not like to be left out of any action which might be necessary, to which the Ambassador emphatically agreed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[39827] No. 189.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. White.

(No. 140.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 28, 1906.

I HAVE received your telegram No. 77 of the 26th instant, reporting a conversation with your German colleague in regard to a new contract for an embankment and a road from the mole to the beach, outside the town of Tangier.

Dr. Rosen denied that there had been any fresh contract, but observed that, at the request of the German Emperor on the occasion of His Imperial Majesty's visit to Tangier, all the port works at Tangier, as well as at Laraiche, had been ceded to Germany, and that a reserve in regard to them had been made at the Algeciras Conference.

Dr. Rosen also maintained that this reservation included all future works at these two places.

The note, which was signed by M. Révoil and Dr. Rosen on the 28th September, 1905 (see Lord Lansdowne's despatch to Sir F. Bertie, No. 635, of the 30th September), stated: "as regards the construction of a mole in the port of Tangier, that the Moorish Government, by a letter addressed to the German Legation dated the 26th March, had asked the firm of Borgeand and Reutemann to draw up two plans, between which they would choose. As at the same time a French Company had been authorized to study the same works, it was agreed that there should be a delay for the purpose of examining the titles of that Company, and that, unless the French Company presented titles identical with those of the German Company, the latter should execute the works ordered by the Maghzen."

When the rival claims had been examined, M. Rouvier signified to the German Government that the French Government had no objection to the German firm commencing the work in question, and the contract for the construction of the mole and warehouses was signed at Tangier on the 31st July, 1905, by a representative of the German firm and Cid Torres.

There was, however, no mention at that time, nor, so far as I am able to ascertain, has there been any mention since, that all port works, present and future, which it might be found necessary to erect at Tangier and Laraiche should be conceded to Germany. It would, indeed, have been altogether at variance with the general spirit of the Agreement of the 28th September, 1905, which explicitly recognized "the principle of open tenders for public works without distinction of nationality," that an exception of so far reaching a character should be made in favour of any one particular country.

Further, I am unable to discover in the Protocols of the Algeciras Conference, or of the meetings in Committee, any reference whatsoever to a reservation of preferential German rights in Tangier and Laraiche, or to a similar French reservation in respect to two other ports, as stated by Dr. Rosen.

I shall be glad if you will endeavour to ascertain in greater detail on what basis exactly the present German contention rests.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[40197] No. 190.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 29.)

(No. 119.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, November* 29, 1906.

AFFAIRS of Morocco: Your telegrams Nos. 65 and 68.

I have communicated to French Ambassador the substance of above messages, showing importance attached to hearty co-operation between France and Spain by His Majesty's Government.

His Excellency, who is very grateful for this assistance, received yesterday from the ~~French~~ Spanish Government, which has since resigned, an acceptance of the terms of the identic Circular which it is proposed to send to the Powers in explanation of the action taken, into the text of which only some trifling modifications have been introduced.

M. Cambon has recommended his Government to accept the text in its present form, but considers that the Circular before being sent off must first be indorsed by the new Spanish Ministry which is in process of formation.

I have promised to speak to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in the sense of your telegrams, as his Excellency thinks that such action will greatly assist to remove Spanish hesitation.

[39431] No. 191.

Foreign Office to Post Office.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 29, 1906.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant with regard to the reorganization of the British postal services in Morocco.

A copy of your letter has been forwarded to His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tangier, who will issue the necessary instructions to the various Consular officers; and the Secretary of State for the Colonies has also been informed of the impending changes.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GORST.

[40200] No. 192.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 30.)

(No. 215.)
Sir, *Tangier, November* 24, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a letter addressed by the French Minister to the Italian Minister, as Dean of the Diplomatic Body, on the 16th instant, informing him that he was prepared to take part in an unofficial discussion of the various Regulations to be drawn up by the foreign Representatives under the General Act of Algeciras, and asking him to elicit an expression of opinion on the subject from his colleagues.

M. Malmusi addressed a Circular to the foreign Representatives, inclosing this letter, and, after some little delay, caused by some of the Ministers applying to their Governments for instructions, all the Representatives stated that they were ready to commence the discussions, provided they were not official, except the Belgian, German, and Austrian Ministers, who made no reserve of this nature. I stated that I was authorized to take part in the preliminary unofficial discussions.

At the suggestion made privately by the French Minister and myself, the doyen invited the Diplomatic Body to meet this morning, without the Moorish Delegates being present, for an exchange of views in regard to the meetings.

Sid Mokri had mentioned incidentally to some of the Ministers that the Makhzen had prepared a house in the official Moorish quarter of the town in which the meetings would be held, and had touched on the question of who should preside at the meetings. It was felt by the Italian Minister, hitherto doyen, the Portuguese Minister, who now becomes doyen, the French and Spanish Ministers, and myself that it was important that the meetings be held at the Portuguese Legation, and be presided over by the Portuguese Minister, as doyen, in accordance with the precedents here. It is not without an object that the Moors have prepared a house, and desire the foreign Representatives to go to them in the Moorish quarter for the meetings. The natives will not be slow to notice the new departure, and the prestige of the Diplomatic Body, already sufficiently affected by recent events here, would certainly suffer.

The German Minister, whilst in agreement with the rest of the Representatives as to the necessity of insisting on the doyen being President, expressed the opinion that it might look ungracious to refuse the use of the house the Makhzen had prepared, and thought we might well fall in with their views in this respect.

The majority of the Representatives were opposed to the acceptance of the house, but no vote was taken, and the matter was allowed to rest, as we had no official knowledge of the house being prepared for the meetings.

An exchange of views then took place as to the order in which the various matters were to be dealt with.

It was agreed that the Regulations, under Article 18 of the Algeciras Act, in regard to the trade in sporting guns, and those in regard to public works under Articles 66 and 110, should be taken in hand at once; whilst other points which might be dealt with at an early date were the taxes on town buildings contemplated in Article 61, the warehouse dues referred to in Articles 71 and 98, and the question of expropriation dealt with in Article 114 and subsequent Articles.

It was then decided to hold the first meeting on the 27th instant, and the doyen was requested to invite the Moorish Delegates to attend at the Portuguese Legation on that day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 192.

M. Regnault to Doyen of the Diplomatic Body.

M. le Doyen et cher Collègue, *Tanger, le* 16 *Novembre*, 1906.

LES communications récemment faites par le Décanat m'ont appris que certains de nos collègues étaient disposés à accepter l'invitation adressée par le Makhzen d'entamer, de concert avec les Délégués, l'étude des Règlements réservés par l'Acte Général d'Algésiras au Corps Diplomatique.

Bien que l'Acte Général ne soit pas encore ratifié par le Parlement Français, je ne doute pas que mon Gouvernement, désireux de n'apporter aucun retard à la mise à exécution des réformes, ne m'autorise à prendre part aux travaux en question. Il semble toutefois que l'étude à laquelle le Corps Diplomatique procéderait avant l'échange des ratifications devrait conserver un caractère officieux.

Je vous serai reconnaissant, M. le Doyen, de vouloir bien me donner votre opinion et celle de nos collègues sur ce point.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) REGNAULT.

[40201] No. 193.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 30.)

(No. 216.)
Sir, *Tangier, November* 24, 1906.

WITH a view to effecting economies, the Sultan has given orders that the house rents of Moorish officials here, which have hitherto been paid by the Government, must in future be paid by themselves.

This decision has come as an unwelcome surprise to the officials, whose salaries are small, and many of them, I understand, find themselves obliged to move to less expensive houses.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[40202] No. 194.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 30.)

(No. 217.)
Sir, *Tangier, November* 24, 1906.

AT the meeting of the foreign Representatives which was held this morning, the French Minister brought forward the question of public security at Tangier, and read a short summary of the various cases which had recently occurred in which French citizens and Algerians had suffered, and in which no justice could be obtained, the Makhzen confessing themselves powerless to exercise their authority.

I enumerated a number of cases in which British subjects had been the sufferers, the Spanish Minister and some other Representatives also similarly relating their grievances.

M. Regnault then proposed that a strong note be addressed to Sid Ben Sliman by the doyen, in the name of the Diplomatic Body, requesting his Excellency to bring the matter to the notice of the Sultan with a view to remedying a state of affairs which had become intolerable, and with a view to giving additional force to this communication he suggested that the Consular officers at Fez should be instructed to support the note by verbal representations in the same sense.

This proposal was unanimously accepted, the German Minister signifying his agreement, though he had not himself had to complain of any case in which German

subjects had suffered. He was, however, disinclined to join in the general condemnation of Raisuli, whom he regarded as a strong man capable of maintaining order; he compared the comparative security of this district with the state of the adjoining Anjera country and other hill tribes where Europeans cannot venture.

I reminded Dr. Rosen that it is by payment of blackmail that people can obtain security and immunity from interference, and that before Raisuli's time this district was absolutely safe.

The French Minister then inquired whether the representations of the Consular officers should be made to Sid Ben Sliman or to the Sultan, which would presumably have more effect. The general opinion being, however, that the Consuls should see Sid Ben Sliman, M. Regnault acquiesced.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[40203] No. 195.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 30.)

(No. 218. Confidential.)
Sir, *Tangier, November* 24, 1906.

I UNDERSTAND from native sources that the arrival of so many ships of war and the talk of landing troops have given rise to a certain amount of excitement among the Moors, who would be unanimously opposed to such a measure. It is reported that Raisuli is consulting his principal supporters on the subject; but it is difficult to obtain reliable information on this point.

It is, I think, regrettable that so many as six ships should have been sent here, and that the papers should have published reports of the intention to land troops at Tangier; such reports rapidly spread through the country in an exaggerated form, and may have a bad effect. It is possible even that Raisuli may revert to his former tactics, so successfully employed when he wished to obtain the removal of the expeditionary force encamped in his neighbourhood. It would be an easy matter for him to capture an important European, or even a foreign Representative, and demand the withdrawal of the ships and guarantees for his own security as a condition for the release of the captive. I would not be understood to say that this is probable, but, on the other hand, one cannot shut one's eyes to its possibility. Raisuli has always retained his suspicions that the Sultan intends to take him prisoner at the first favourable opportunity, and might be glad of an opportunity to make a *coup* which might enable him to exact guarantees for his personal security and at the same time, by obtaining the withdrawal of the ships, to gain the secret approval of the Makhzen and popularity with the Moors.

The French Minister, upon the arrival of the Spanish battle-ship "Pelayo" and cruiser "Dona Maria de Molina," told me that neither he nor the Spanish Minister had any previous knowledge of their coming, and that he regretted that they had been sent, as the vessels which were here before would have sufficed for suppressing any disturbance that might have occurred and for maintaining order until troops could be brought from Spain and Algeria if necessary.

Count Saint-Aulaire also spoke to me privately on the subject, and expressed fears that the presence of so many vessels and the talk of landing troops might induce Raisuli to take action.

The Spanish Minister has expressed much the same views in conversation with me, and deprecated the presence of too many ships of war.

There is no fear of any general rising against Christians or of any concerted action on the part of the natives, but there is the possibility of some incidents giving rise to stone-throwing and looting of shops, which, if not speedily checked, might assume more serious proportions. Two or three ships capable of landing a few hundred men would, however, I believe, be sufficient to check any such disturbances, and if their landing should appear likely to give rise to more trouble later, reinforcements could at once be brought. It would, however, I venture to think, have been more prudent to have kept secret the intention to land men in case of necessity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[40204] No. 196.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 30.)

(No. 219.)

Sir, *Tangier, November* 25, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith extracts from a despatch from His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez, reporting an incident which had occurred at Fez, and which might have led to serious consequences but for the intervention of Kaïd Sir Harry Maclean and the chief Secretary of Sid-ben-Sliman. Unfortunately, the Spanish Consul appears to have been much to blame, and to have behaved in an altogether unwarrantable manner.

The Spanish Consul is a doctor practising at Fez, and is not a Consul *de carrière*.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure in No. 196.

Vice-Consul Macleod to Mr. White.

(No. 59.)

(Extract.) *Fez, November* 22, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report the following incident for your information, in case it may become matter of public remark at Tangier or abroad:—

Yesterday my wife, accompanied by the soldier of this Vice-Consulate and a groom, went to the "Hedia" ceremony (*i.e.*, the tribal deputations to the Sultan), which is held in the quadrangle opposite the arms factory here. The soldiers, in a swaggering, bullying way, with quite uncalled-for strength of language, told them to go back or to go elsewhere, as the space there was reserved for the American Mission, who were expected to be present. My soldier answered that they need not shout; he was not going to quarrel with them; Mrs. Macleod had meant to go alongside Dr. Verdon's party, and they might take her there or elsewhere, as they pleased, and he handed them the leading rein of her animal. At this they calmed down, and, without further demur, placed my wife alongside Dr. Verdon's party.

Presently Dr. Cerdeira, Spanish Consul here, and his brother, Clemente Cerdeira, a lad of 18 or so, rode in by that same gate.

The soldier stopped them in the same manner, and gave the same reasons. The Cerdeiras, however, refused to go anywhere but to the space allotted to the American Mission, and began to push their way by force through the soldiers, who then pushed them back—all amid some uproar.

Just then the Kaïd of the soldiers arrived, and, in a most civil way, asked the Cerdeiras to come with him to the factory gate, where space had been reserved for European visitors (Mr. and Mrs. Mannismann and others were already visible there). But to this the Cerdeiras refused to listen, and meanwhile the Kaïd began to lead Clemente Cerdeira's horse towards the space the Kaïd had indicated. (I should explain that Dr. Cerdeira does not speak Arabic, but his brother speaks Arabic well, and is his interpreter.) At this Clemente Cerdeira began to belabour the Kaïd over the shoulders and the back of his head with his riding switch, whereupon the uproar increased, and both Cerdeiras were forced back to where they had been first stopped.

The Kaïd then went to Sid Dris-al-Bukili, who was standing opposite the factory gate, and he sent one of his attendants to invite the Cerdeiras to dismount and come to him. They refused to dismount, and, after another altercation with the soldiers, succeeded in pushing their way till they reached Bukili. They then dismounted, and straight away Dr. Cerdeira leaped forward and seized the Kaïd with both hands by the beard and hair, *i.e.*, by the sidelocks.

A frantic struggle ensued, Dr. Cerdeira continuing to pull at the Kaïd's beard and hair, and the Kaïd trying to draw his sword, until they were forcibly parted by the bystanders. The Kaïd was for the time being quietened by Kaïd Sir Harry Maclean, one of whose officers he is, and the Cerdeiras were talked to by Al Bukili, who, after the "Hedia" was over, sent them home with an escort.

The foregoing gives what was related to me by my wife and our soldier and groom, one or other of whom saw or heard the whole affair as narrated, and whose accounts of it were confirmed to me by Dr. Verdon subsequently.

I would remark that foreigners in the Sultan's service attend the "Hedia" officially and in uniform, as part of their duty. As regards other Europeans, their witnessing it is merely by permission of the Sultan, and when, say, Consular officials go it is merely as private spectators, without being invited or expected, and in no way in the course of their duties.

[40205] No. 197.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 30.)

(No. 220.)

Sir, *Tangier, November* 25, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 203 of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to report that the contract for the French loan referred to therein was signed at Fez on the 20th instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[40206] No. 198.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 30.)

(No. 221.)

Sir, *Tangier, November* 25, 1906.

HIS Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez reports that the Feast at the close of Ramadan was celebrated with the usual ceremonies, the muster of troops and tribesmen being better than on the last few occasions, though they probably numbered less than 3,000.

It is customary at this Feast for the tribes to offer presents to the Sultan, and Govenors frequently send considerable sums of money to His Majesty.

Mr. MacLeod reports that an emissary of Raisuli applied to the Fez agent of a Tangier bank for an advance of 700 dollars, equivalent to about 82*l.*, which he said Raisuli had paid in at Tangier for transmission to Fez, but of which the agent had received no advice. It seems that of this sum about 18*l.* was to be presented to the Sultan as a joint offering from Raisuli and his deputy, about 30*l.* was for the purchase of two saddles for Raisuli himself, and the remaining 32*l.* was to be divided between nine of the principal Court officials.

It would appear that, although Raisuli is exacting large sums from the people under his jurisdiction, in addition to what he receives from foreigners in bribes and blackmail, he is not very generous in his presents to the Sultan and the Court officials, whose favours less independent officials seek to gain by payment of heavy sums.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[40209] No. 199.

Mr. Lister to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 30.)

(No. 477.)

Sir, *Paris, November* 29, 1906.

A CONTROVERSY is at present being carried on in the press with regard to the joint action proposed by France and Spain in view of eventualities in Morocco.

M. de Lanessan, Minister of Marine in M. Waldeck-Rousseau's Cabinet, and editor of "Le Siècle," and M. Jaurès in "L'Humanité," have lately been attacking the Government for their policy of sending a force to Tangier.

M. de Lanessan declares that the situation is worse than before the Conference at Algeciras, and that the proposed measures have greatly irritated the feelings of the Moors.

"Le Temps" has replied in two articles defending the action of the Government. I inclose the article which appears in "Le Temps" of to-day's date,* and which quotes a declaration made by M. Clemenceau to a reporter of "L'Echo de Paris," to the effect that the Government desire to be prepared against eventualities, and to ward off the danger that other Powers may intervene to carry out duties undertaken by France and Spain.

* Not printed.

M. Jaurès has notified his intention of interpellating the Ministry on their policy in Morocco, and as to the grounds which have led them to take the present action, without even waiting until the Algeciras Act shall have been laid before Parliament for ratification.

It is announced this morning that the French war-ships which were on the point of leaving Toulon for Tangier were stopped by a telegram from Paris.

I have, &c.
(Signed) REGINALD LISTER.

[40274] No. 200.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 671.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 30, 1906.

THE French Ambassador called at this Office on the 28th instant and read a telegram which he had received from the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that the German Ambassador in Paris had asked two questions at the Quai d'Orsay, which he said were of his own initiative :—

1. Whether, in the event of the French disembarking troops at Tangier, they were determined on going "bien loin"?
2. Whether it was true that England had agreed with France to send ships of war to Tangier to support the French?

M. Louis had replied that the French troops would restrict their operations within the limits prescribed by the Algeciras Act for the action of the French police, and that, although the Governments of France and Great Britain were in complete agreement respecting affairs in Morocco, the British Government made no secret of their having had no intention to send ships to Tangier, a fact of which Count Metternich had been informed a few days ago.

M. Cambon expressed the opinion that the German Government did not at present contemplate taking any action at Tangier.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[40495] No. 201.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 1.)

(No. 121.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, December* 1, 1906.

SEÑOR PEREZ CABALLERO, the new Minister of State, paid me his offi cia visit this morning.

He asked me to convey to you his assurance that above all things the new Spanish Government desire to act cordially with Great Britain; public opinion in Spain is unanimous on this point. A close understanding with France, though regarded with less unanimity here, is a further object of the new Spanish Government.

Speaking of the affairs of Morocco, his Excellency told me that, subject to an additional clause to the effect that Spain and France undertake to protect not only their own nationals but the subjects of all the Powers represented at Tangier, it had already been agreed between him and the French Ambassador to accept the Circular which it is proposed to issue to the Powers.

This Circular is to be communicated to the Powers on the same day by the Representatives of the two countries, and its terms will be identic.

With a view to concerting possible joint operations, it is arranged that Vice-Admiral Touchard shall visit Madrid on his way to Tangier.

The question of command will not be dealt with in the Circular, but it has been agreed that the command shall devolve upon the senior officer present, whether French or Spanish. This duty, therefore, will in the present case fall upon Vice-Admiral Touchard.

The French Government will doubtless also contrive to dispatch a senior army officer to Tangier.

[40576] No. 202.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 3.)

(No. 213.)
Sir, *Madrid, November* 25, 1906.

MY telegrams recording interviews with the French Ambassador and the Spanish Minister of State for Foreign Affairs on the subject of the affairs of Morocco have, I hope, conveyed a sufficiently clear idea of the manner in which the matter is regarded at Madrid.

Although the country readily accepted the version presented to it by the Spanish Government of the triumphs achieved by Spain at Algeciras, and of the confirmation of her rights in Morocco which resulted in the conclusions of the Conference, there has been hitherto little evidence of a desire to take practical advantage of a position thus gained, or indeed of any public concern in what was going on beyond the Straits.

Interest in the question is now at last beginning to revive, at least in Government circles, under the pressure of events.

Appropriation is made in the Budget for 1907 for harbour and other works at Ceuta and Melilla. In the new Treaty with Switzerland Spain has been careful to retain the right to concede a treatment of favour to imports from Morocco. The Ministry for War is calling for candidates to fill the posts to be created in connection with the organization of the new police force in the open ports.

When, however, the French Ambassador proceeded to prepare this Government for the proposals which were shortly to be made to it from Paris with a view to an effective co-operation between the two countries in preserving the peace at Tangier, his Excellency perceived at once that the Minister for Foreign Affairs was very reluctant to engage in the contemplated demonstration. For some time past the cue at the Spanish Ministry of State has been to regard events at and about Tangier as constituting no marked departure from the ordinary. Señor Cologan, ex-Spanish Minister at Tangier, now specially charged with Morocco business in the Ministry of State, speaks invariably in this sense. It was under his auspices that the Spanish population of Tangier distinguished themselves in March 1905 in cheering the declaration of the German Emperor during his memorable visit. His action on that occasion led to his recall shortly afterwards, and he is said to regard himself as a martyr to his German proclivities. This possibly accounts for the fidelity with which he reflects the utterances of the German Embassy on Morocco affairs. M. Jules Cambon is much annoyed by the prevalence of Señor Cologan's views at the Ministry of State, and during a recent interview with the King his Excellency pointed out to His Majesty the danger of allowing this influence to make itself felt in the councils of his Government.

Señor Gullon himself (Minister for Foreign Affairs) is disinclined by age and temperament from taking strong action, and the position of General López Domínguez's Government in general is so precarious that their hesitation to embark on anything like an adventure is not unnatural.

The demands of the French Ambassador, moreover, have revived the reluctance which is felt by all Spanish Governments to work sincerely and cordially with France, especially in Morocco. This sentiment on the part of Spanish statesmen and officials has, I believe, been often noted in despatches from this Embassy. It was very marked in the case of Señor Ojeda, the late Under-Secretary of State in the Spanish Foreign Office and present Ambassador of Spain to the Vatican. Conversations which I held with members of Señor Moret's Administration in the spring of this year left on my mind the impression that hearty co-operation between France and Spain would be very difficult, and I have found succeeding Ministers similarly disposed. They all concur in assuring me that, if they consented to follow France, it was at the bidding of England, and that, but for the Anglo-French Agreement, there could have been no Agreement with France over the affairs of Morocco. Señor Gullon now abounds in the same sense, and I do not doubt that the French Ambassador is right in ascribing the understanding which he has with so much difficulty brought about in an appreciable measure to the timely advice which you have directed me to give to the Spanish Government. He also sees in Señor Gullon's general acceptance of the French proposals the direct intervention of the King of Spain.

Señor Gullon tells me he finds difficulty when answering questions on the subject in the Cortes, in connecting, as he seeks to do, the action now taken with the text of the General Act of Algeciras. Articles II and III are the ones on which he relies, but it is evident that they do not expressly interest France and Spain with a mission to

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restore order before the new police force has even begun to be organized. I have remarked to his Excellency that whatever may be the precise interpretation of the text, it seems clear that France and Spain are especially mentioned in the General Act in connection with the Morocco police; that measures of police would seem therefore to devolve naturally upon them if upon anybody; and that the necessity of preparing immediately for action, though it is to be hoped an actual landing in force may still be avoided, leaves no time for concerting any other combination even if it were desirable to do so.

I have not failed also to impress upon his Excellency the consideration pointed out in your telegram No. 65 of the 24th instant, that, failing united and resolute action by France and Spain jointly, circumstances may compel some other Power or Powers to intervene for the protection of their own subjects. This, indeed, is the argument mainly employed by M. Jules Cambon, who believes that Germany would decline French and Spanish assistance in exacting reparation for an outrage on a German subject, and would probably herself land a force in such a case, unless she found France or Spain already in occupation with an available force.

I think it may now be said that Spain now sees the necessity of proceeding in concert with France. She does so, however, unwillingly, and in the earnest hope that no landing may be required. The French Ambassador is good enough to keep me informed from day to day of the result of his interviews with Señor Gullon. He has also shown me several Reports which he has received from Tangier, one of these commenting on the frequent communication which has been noted between the German Legation at Tangier and Erraissate, and which is said to be explained by the Germans at Tangier as being prompted by a desire to prevent the occurrence of disagreeable incidents by encouraging Erraissate, who alone is capable of preserving order, to extend his authority as far as possible.

M. Cambon is now better satisfied with Señor Gullon's attitude. He was at first annoyed that his Excellency had sounded Berlin on the course to be pursued and by the conduct of the Spanish Censor, who tardily arrived in Paris to assist in organizing the Morocco State Bank, and then concerted with the German authorities amendments which proved to be a source of embarrassment and delay. But Señor Gullon has now been brought again into line, though points of difference still remain, such as the choice of a Spanish or French officer to command the joint force in the event of a landing.

The real difficulty will arise, M. Cambon thinks, when the attempt is made to work the scheme of joint police at Tangier and Casablanca.

If the Spanish newspapers, the "Imparcial" and the "Heraldo," the first Independent Liberal and the latter Radical, are strongly in favour of vigorous action in Morocco by Spain on the lines laid down at Algeciras, the "País" and other leading extreme Radical and Republican papers are opposed to any Spanish intervention whatever; and the same line is taken by the influential semi-Conservative "Correspondencia," which deprecates the employment of a single man or peseta on the present undertaking. Their paper republishes to-day, with a strong note of approval, a series of prophetic telegrams, copied from the Republican "España Nueva," and purporting to anticipate the reports likely to be received from Tangier during the next few months. They depict the Spanish force as being decimated by the effects of war and disease; abandoned by the French, who insist on pursuing a hopeless enterprise against the fanatical Moors; and driven at last to retire to Spain, as Prim did from Mexico, leaving the French to take compensation by annexing a large slice of Morocco. The Conservative "Época" denies that the General Act of Algeciras affords any sanction to present action of the Spanish Government.

If the press could be said to represent fairly the opinion of the people, its utterances would indeed afford little comfort or encouragement to the Government. Public opinion, however, is dormant on the subject of Morocco. If aroused, it would, I believe, support the traditional influence which she claims to exercise in Morocco, while deprecating any servile association with the French to that end.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[40707] No. 203.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 3.)

(No. 83.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, December* 3, 1906.

PROPOSED grant by Moorish Government to the Algiers and Morocco Company of the monopoly of a concession for the manufacture of matches, candles, and sugars in Morocco.

The Legation have received from Sid Torres a draft contract for a monopoly as stated above. The Company are to pay 15,000,000 fr., half in arms, cannon, &c., and half in cash, also 15 per cent. on sales for export and 10 per cent. on all sales in Morocco. The Moorish Government remit import duty on material and plant, and grant a site for the factory.

Sid Torres tells me that the terms of the contract which the agents of the Company have negotiated with the Moorish Government here will now be submitted for the Sultan's approval.

I shall be grateful for information whether Treaty stipulations would not be infringed by this contract, in which case Sid Torres should, I think, be acquainted with the fact.

[40809] No. 204.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 4.)

(No. 84.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, December* 4, 1906.

I AM informed from Fez that the Minister of War is coming to Tangier with a force of troops. Kaïd Maclean, the English cavalry sergeant, and French military doctor are accompanying this expedition, which was to leave Fez on the 1st instant. I understand that their orders are to capture both Raisuli and his deputy.

It is quite possible that Raisuli will attempt to capture an European when he hears of this, as he is almost certain to do.

[40707] No. 205.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. White.

(No. 44.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, December* 4, 1906.

APPLICATION of Algiers and Morocco Company for certain monopolies. Your telegram of the 3rd December, No. 83.

I request you to point out to Sid Torres that proposed contract would without doubt constitute a breach of Treaty stipulations. You should add that, if the Moorish Government were to grant a contract of this kind, His Majesty's Government would, in the event of objection being taken to it, consider it their duty to demand, in conjunction with the other Signatory Powers, that it should be cancelled.

A similar communication may, if it seems to you advisable, be made to the agent of the Company in question.

[41016] No. 206.

Identic Note presented, separately, by the French and Spanish Ambassadors, December 5, 1906.

Note concertée entre la France et l'Espagne au sujet des mesures prises par les deux Gouvernements pour la protection éventuelle des Étrangers à Tanger.

LES événements récents de la région de Tanger et les incidents répétés qui ont eu lieu dans cette ville sont de nature à faire craindre que les étrangers n'y trouvent plus de garanties suffisantes pour leur sécurité. Si la situation empirait au point d'aboutir à des désordres plus graves, l'institution de la police prévue par l'Acte d'Algésiras

apparaîtrait avec un caractère de nécessité urgente, et la France et l'Espagne auraient à prendre des mesures pour en hâter l'organisation dans les conditions acceptées par les Puissances qui ont participé à la Conférence. C'est dans cet esprit que les deux Gouvernements ont décidé d'envoyer à Tanger des forces navales capables de pourvoir à toute éventualité. Suivant les circonstances, les Ministres Français et Espagnol, préalablement d'accord à cet effet, pourront, après s'être concertés avec leurs collègues du Corps Diplomatique à Tanger, requérir du Commandant des forces navales le débarquement des détachements nécessaires pour le maintien de l'ordre dans la ville et sa banlieue. En cas d'attaque à main armée, les Ministres de France et d'Espagne, d'un commun accord, pourront requérir d'urgence le dit débarquement et ils en rendront compte à leurs collègues. Le commandement appartiendra à l'officier du grade le plus élevé et dans le même grade au plus ancien de l'une ou l'autre nationalité. On proposerait immédiatement au Maghzen de créer, à l'abri de cette protection indispensable, mais purement provisoire, les corps de police. Les détachements seraient réembarqués aussitôt que possible et au plus tard dès que la police aurait été mise à même de fonctionner. L'autorité du Gouverneur de Tanger serait maintenue et on demanderait au Sultan de rétablir le fonctionnement et la juridiction de ses Représentants à Tanger et dans sa région dans les conditions normales qu'ils avaient précédemment. Le pavillon Chérifien resterait seul arboré sur les bâtiments de Tanger.

Les deux Gouvernements, désireux de donner aux Puissances Signataires de l'Acte d'Algésiras, avant même sa ratification, toute garantie qu'ils se conformeront à son esprit dans l'accomplissement de la mission particulière qui leur a été reconnue pour amener la sécurité des étrangers au Maroc, tiennent à faire connaître d'avance aux Puissances leurs projets éventuels afin de bien marquer le caractère de leur action.

[40887] No. 207.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 153.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 5, 1906.

THE Spanish Ambassador called at this Office on the 3rd instant, and informed me that the French and Spanish Governments had made all the arrangements necessary for their joint action at Tangier. They had agreed upon the terms of an identic Circular note, in which it is proposed to explain to the Powers the nature and scope of the measures contemplated, and to inform them that, should it prove necessary to land troops at Tangier, the French Admiral, as being the senior officer present, would be in command. The Admiral was going to Madrid on his way to Morocco, in order to discuss the situation with the Spanish Government.

Señor de Villa Urrutia also informed me that his Government were determined to act in agreement with the British and French Governments in the pursuit of a common policy in Morocco.

I told his Excellency that the communication he had made was most satisfactory to His Majesty's Government, on whose cordial support in this line of policy Spain could confidently rely.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[41022] No. 208.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 7.)

(No. 126.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, December* 6, 1906.

THE visit of Admiral Touchard, who leaves Madrid to-night on his return to Cadiz, has tended to remove some of the objections felt here to the command of Spanish troops being vested in foreign hands, and it has produced a good impression.

[41144] No. 209.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 7.)

(No. 127.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, December* 7, 1906.

I UNDERSTAND that all the Powers have returned satisfactory replies to the Franco-Spanish Circular concerning joint action in Morocco. Señor Perez Caballero is particularly gratified at the terms of your reply received from M. de Villa Urrutia, and also by the message conveyed in your telegram No. 69 of the 4th instant.

No objection has been raised by the German Government, who merely expressed the hope that no necessity to disembark troops might arise.

[41419] No. 210.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 70.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, December* 8, 1906.

MEASURES of protection at Tangier.

I learn from Spanish Ambassador that there has been a slight disagreement with the French Ambassador at Madrid respecting explanatory note which it is proposed to communicate to the Maghzen. I told his Excellency, who asked my views on the subject, that some parts of the note in question did not seem to me to affect the Maghzen. I thought, however, that there was no reason why the latter should not be reminded, by means of a verbal communication, of the representations already made at Fez in regard to the danger of the situation, and informed that the steps now to be taken at Tangier were intended to provide against the possibility of the Moorish Government finding themselves unable to avert this danger by causing an improvement in the state of affairs.

The above is for your Excellency's information in case your opinion should be requested, otherwise you need not take any action.

41261] No. 211.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey. —(Received December 9.)

(No. 85.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, December* 9, 1906.

FOLLOWING sent to Madrid :—

"The French and Spanish Ministers will communicate the explanatory note to the Makhzen respecting measures of protection textually in writing to-morrow or the day after.

"The French Minister was opposed to this note being communicated to the Makhzen until it was known what effect had been produced by it on the other Powers.

"Three French men-of-war arrived last night but no Spanish, the necessity for the Admiral to first see the new Minister of Marine being the reason given."

[41317] No. 212.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 10.)

(No. 223. Confidential.)
Sir, *Tangier, November* 28, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 204 of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to report that Kaïd Sir H. Maclean informs me that a German officer is going to Fez to organize a corps of engineers for the Sultan.

The officer selected is Captain von Tschudi, who accompanied the recent German Mission to Fez. From a visiting card he left at this Legation on that occasion, I observe that Captain von Tschudi is an instructor in the balloon battalion, having command of the Wireless Telegraph Company. It is probable that this officer has been specially selected by the German Government on account of his experience in wireless

telegraphy, with a view to the Sultan being enabled later on to establish wireless telegraph stations in this country without having to put the work out to public tender.

The Germans also doubtless hope to still further improve their position at the Court by having an officer in constant contact with the Sultan.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[41319] No. 213.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 10.)

(No. 225.)
Sir, *Tangier, November* 30, 1906.

I WAS informed privately that negotiations have been proceeding between the Moorish Government and the German Company who have the contract for the mole now under construction at Tangier for building an embankment along the sea front outside the town walls and making thereon a road connecting the new mole with the beach, so as to enable cattle or bulky and heavy goods to be conveyed to the mole without having to pass through the narrow streets of the town. The terms of the contract have, I was told, now been settled with the authorities, the sum of 36,000*l.* being the amount agreed upon, and the contract has been forwarded to Fez for approval.

I took an opportunity of mentioning to the German Minister that I had heard this report, observing that I presumed my informant had been mistaken.

Dr. Rosen replied that there was no new contract, but gave me no further information on the point, going on at once to say that when the German Emperor visited Tangier, His Majesty had requested that the contracts for harbour works at two Moorish ports be given to Germans, and that the Sultan had agreed thereto—Tangier and Laraiche being the ports selected. The harbour works at these ports were, therefore, entirely outside the scope of the Algeciras Act, and a reserve was specially made in regard to them, as also in regard to Saffi and Dar-al-Baida in favour of the French (see French Yellow Book, p. 256).

I observed that I was aware of this reserve, but understood it to refer to the special contract at that time either signed or under consideration, and not to all works that may at any future time be undertaken for the improvement of these four ports.

Dr. Rosen, however, repeated that the reserve was practically for all time, and in support of this theory stated that the contract for the works to be undertaken at Laraiche had not yet been signed.

It seemed to me of no advantage to pursue the matter further at that time with Dr. Rosen, but I communicated the substance of the conversation to the French Minister, and inquired whether he interpreted in the same sense the reserve as to the ports of Saffi and Dar-al-Baida, for the works at which ports a French Company were contracting.

Mr. Regnault's view entirely coincided with mine. He was clearly of opinion that the reserve made by the Moorish Delegates at Algeciras referred solely to the works at that time contemplated, for which plans and contracts had already been submitted or were in course of preparation, and could not be taken to extend to all works that may at any future time be undertaken.

Mr. Regnault considered it quite inadmissible that Germany should be permitted to acquire such important interests at Tangier as would accrue from an admission of the claim put forward by Dr. Rosen. He made no such claim for France in regard to the ports of Saffi and Dar-al-Baida, and could not admit it for Germany.

With the harbour works at Tangier, Laraiche, Dar-al-Baida, and Saffi withdrawn for the benefit of two Powers, only two ports would remain at which there would be harbour works to put up to public tender, viz., Mazagan and Mogador, for the other two ports, Tetuan and Rabat, on account of their situation, are never likely to become important ports justifying expenditure of large sums on harbour works.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[41320] No. 214.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 10.)

(No. 226.)
Sir, *Tangier, November* 30, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 176 of the 27th September, I have the honour to report that the Governor of Tekna, who was principally responsible for the attack upon M. Lassallas, was arrested by order of the Viceroy of Marrakesh on the 19th instant whilst attending the public reception at the Moorish feast.

The manner of effecting the arrest has, it is said, created a considerable impression on the natives at Marrakesh, and will doubtless have a good effect. All the chief Government officials, Governors, and delegations from the various tribes were present, when the Viceroy, turning to the Governor of Tekna and reproaching him with the disorders in his district and the attack on M. Lassallas, ordered his arrest, stating that all those who took part in the attack would also be punished.

The Viceroy then informed the Governors and other officials present that he was determined that order should be maintained, and that all persons guilty of creating disorders should be punished.

The French Minister informs me that the inquiry made into the Lassallas affair through the French Consulate at Mogador shows that it had been intended to murder M. Lassallas when he left the Tekna territory on his way to Marrakesh, but that he had escaped by pushing on quicker than had been anticipated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[41322] No. 215.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 10.)

(No. 228.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 1, 1906.

REPORTS are again current at Fez that the Sultan is about to leave that capital and that preparations are being actively pushed forward for that purpose.

It is believed to be His Majesty's intention to proceed to Rabat, but there is also a rumour that His Majesty may visit Tangier.

It is not possible yet to say whether there is any foundation for these reports, but the fact that the Sultan is now in possession of some funds from the recent French loan makes it possible for His Majesty to collect an army and to make an expedition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[41323] No. 216.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 10.)

(No. 229.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 1, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 217 of the 24th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith translation of the note which Count Martens Ferrão, the Portuguese Minister, is addressing, as doyen, to Sid Ben Sliman on the subject of the disturbed state of the country at Tangier and its immediate neighbourhood, and the arbitrary proceedings of Raisuli and his agents.

I further beg leave to inclose copy of a despatch I am addressing to His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez, instructing him to support this communication by verbal representation to Ben Sliman in concert with his colleagues.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 216.

Count Martens Ferrão to Abdelkerim Ben Sliman.

LE Corps Diplomatique a décidé, dans sa séance du 24 de ce mois, d'exposer à votre Excellence la situation chaque jour plus troublée des colonies Européennes à Tanger et dans sa banlieue. Les agissements de Raisuli et de ses agents rendent cette situation vraiment intolérable et constituent une violation permanente et formelle des Traités que les Représentants des Puissances ont le devoir de faire respecter. Depuis quelque temps Raisuli a fait lever des contributions que ses gens sollicitent les armes à la main ; il impose des taxes arbitraires à tout Européen qui veut clore sa propriété, et si on refuse de les acquitter, il signifie des interdictions suivies de violences contre les propriétés. Il a notamment intimé, d'une façon générale, la défense aux notaires de la ville de Tanger de procéder en dehors des murailles à des opérations de partage et de mesurage de terrain. Les adouls sont donc dans l'obligation, sous l'empire de la crainte qu'il leur inspire, de refuser leur assistance à ceux qui la sollicitent, alors même qu'il s'agit d'actes établis (sans contestation) conformément aux lois du pays.

Ces mesures vexatoires ont eu pour résultat de paralyser complètement les affaires et de laisser des intérêts respectables en souffrance.

L'arbitraire de Raisuli prend un caractère plus grave encore quand il s'adresse aux personnes des ressortissants étrangers. Plusieurs d'entre eux—et ces faits ont été exposés dans des plaintes adressées au Représentant de Sa Majesté à Tanger—ont été victimes d'arrestations, d'emprisonnements, de punitions corporelles, d'agressions, et de blessures. Un seul de ces attentats eût suffi naguère pour que le Makhzen, soucieux d'assurer la protection de ceux qui vivent sur son territoire, prononçât contre ses auteurs des punitions rigoureuses. Aujourd'hui de pareils faits restent impunis, malgré les démarches répétées des Agents des Puissances.

Ainsi a été créé un état de trouble et d'inquiétude qui va grandissant et, alors qu'autrefois la population indigène vivait dans des relations de confiance réciproque avec les Européens, depuis que Raisuli gouverne cette région les provocations, l'exemple de l'impunité, ont produit des effets pernicieux et fait germer parmi une certaine partie de la population des sentiments d'hostilité, qui se manifestent par des injures et des menaces, et qui peuvent causer de grands malheurs.

D'autre part, on constate la faiblesse des agents du Makhzen, l'aveu répété de leur impuissance, une sorte d'indifférence coupable avec laquelle ils accueillent les réclamations pressantes de ceux qui sont lésés.

Le Corps Diplomatique a dû intervenir à deux reprises déjà depuis trois mois pour signaler des actes regrettables à l'attention du Représentant de Sa Majesté et de votre Excellence. Il a décidé aujourd'hui d'appeler très sérieusement votre attention sur les faits qui précèdent et sur les considérations qu'ils lui inspirent. Il prie votre Excellence de les porter personnellement à la connaissance de Sa Majesté Chérifienne, que Dieu l'assiste, certain que, dans sa perspicacité et sa haute sagesse, Sa Majesté voudra y porter remède et ordonner d'urgence les mesures appropriées à la gravité des circonstances, de façon à faire cesser les troubles et les dangers causés par celui qui, sous le couvert de l'autorité du Makhzen, emploie cette autorité contre son but qui est la paix, et abuse de ses fonctions pour provoquer les désordres et la violence.

Inclosure 2 in No. 216.

Mr. White to Vice-Consul MacLeod.

(No. 28.)

Tangier, December 1, 1906.

Sir,

AT a meeting of the Diplomatic Body it was decided that a strong representation be made at the Court in regard to the very unsatisfactory state of the country at Tangier and its immediate neighbourhood, owing in a great measure to the arbitrary proceedings of Raisuli and his agents, and the impunity enjoyed by those who have been guilty of aggressions against Europeans.

The Portuguese Minister, as Dean of the Diplomatic Body, has addressed to Sid Ben Sliman, in the name of his colleagues, a note, copy of which is inclosed herewith for your information, and it has been decided that, in order to give greater

force to this communication, representations in the same sense should be made to Sid Ben Sliman verbally by all the Consular officers at Fez.

I have therefore to request you to act in concert with your colleagues in this matter, and to take an early opportunity of speaking seriously to Sid Ben Sliman in the sense of the letter addressed to his Excellency by Count Martens Ferrão, urging the adoption without loss of time of energetic measures to restore order in this district, and to insure the security of foreigners in their persons and property, as well as their enjoyment of all the rights they are entitled to by Treaty.

With a view to enabling you to cite facts in support of the statements in the doyen's letter, I transmit to you herewith a Memorandum in regard to some of the cases in which the interests of British subjects have suffered. I make no reference to the many cases where other foreign subjects have been affected, nor, indeed, to a number of minor incidents in regard to British subjects or of incidents which have occurred outside the jurisdiction of Raisuli.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 216.

Memorandum.

A GARDEN purchased by Mr. Brooks many years ago was taken possession of by Raisuli's men, November 1905. Complaint made to Sid Torres, who submitted title deeds to Kadi, who pronounced them perfectly valid. Sid Torres ordered restitution of land to Mr. Brooks and had boundaries marked out. February 1906 Raisuli's deputy again took possession of land by orders, as he told Sid Torres, of Raisuli himself, and notwithstanding our complaints to Sid Torres, who admits that the land undoubtedly belongs to Mr. Brooks, and letters written many months ago to Sid Ben Sliman, the land remains in the possession of Raisuli's men.

2. Mr. Harris' house, situated on the beach only two miles outside the town, has been on several occasions attacked, and in consequence of the warning given by Moorish authorities that they cannot ensure his safety there, he is unable to live in it and has to hire a house in town.

3. Makhzen land which was in possession of Dris Ajwow, for many years soldier to this Legation, and of his family before him, was confirmed to him by Shereefian Patents of Mulai Hassan and of Mulai Abdelaziz. On the death of Dris his son was appointed Legation soldier in his stead, and Mulai Abdelaziz by Shereefian Patent confirmed him in the possession of the family land. Nevertheless Raisuli seized all this land, together with the crops upon it, and I have been unable to obtain any satisfaction.

4. The hedges of the British subject, Mr. Levison, have been knocked down by Raisuli's orders, and no satisfaction has been obtained. I understand that the hedges were in their right place, but even were they not, Raisuli committed a breach of Treaty stipulations in having them destroyed instead of making a complaint to the British Consulate.

5. The hedge of the British subject, Mr. Molinary, was similarly destroyed, and subsequently Raisuli's men even entered the house in course of construction, stopped the work and drove off the European masons.

(In each of the foregoing cases numbered 1, 4, and 5, I am assured that messages were sent to the British subjects in question, that if they paid certain specified sums they would not be interfered with further.)

6. The house of Mr. Levison was attacked at night, and he has on several occasions been warned that an attempt would be made to take him captive. He has consequently had to move to an hotel.

7. Two of my servants on different occasions were arrested and imprisoned by Raisuli's men, who even entered my garden on one occasion for the purpose. On the other occasion the man was arrested notwithstanding that I had previously heard of the intention to arrest and had communicated with Sid Torres, who had warned Raisuli's deputy that my servants were under British protection and that he cannot exercise jurisdiction over them. The only complaint against these men was that they refused to pay sums of money demanded of them.

8. Richard Gomez, having obtained permission from the Moorish authorities, erected a circus tent on the beach. He was subsequently forced to pay blackmail to Raisuli's head guard to prevent its being pulled down again.

9. British subjects have on several occasions been arrested and their property seized by Raisuli's men and also by the soldiers, although it is well known that they have no authority to exercise any jurisdiction whatever over them.

10. There have been several robberies from houses and gardens in the neighbourhood, on one occasion the Spaniard in charge being shot and killed.

11. Blackmail in various forms levied on British subjects by Raisuli's men.

[41324] No. 217.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 10.)

(No. 230.)

Sir, *Tangier, December* 1, 1906.

AT daybreak, on the morning of the 27th ultimo, a brisk exchange of shots occurred between a band of Anjera men and the guards at the house of Mr. Harris, situated on the beach about 2 miles distant from the town. The Anjera men withdrew, but later in the morning returned in greater numbers and the fighting was renewed, contingents arriving from the neighbouring villages of the Fahs or Tangier district to take part in the fighting.

The Anjera men, being outnumbered, retreated to their own country, being followed by the Fahs villagers; there appear, however, to have been but few casualties, though I am informed that the walls of Mr. Harris' garden near the entrance gate are riddled with bullets.

Notwithstanding inquiries made in various quarters, I have been unable to ascertain definitely whether the Anjera men made a deliberate attack on Mr. Harris' house. The version given by his servants, which is confirmed in other quarters, is that the Anjera men had dug a trench in front of the garden gate, and waited there until the gate was opened by the guard in the early morning, when they opened fire, their intention probably being to obtain possession of the rifles and ammunition of the soldiers.

Another version is that the Anjera men first attacked a Moorish guard in that neighbourhood, who fled to the soldiers at Mr. Harris' house for protection, being followed by his assailants.

The matter was brought to my knowledge at an early hour by Mr. Harris, who, though unable to live at his house, is in telephonic communication with his servants there, and I informed the French Minister, who communicated with the Admiral in command of the French men-of-war.

I understand that all preparations were made by the Admiral for taking action in case of need, and the fighting was carefully watched, but, happily, there was no necessity for any steps being taken.

The fact that an opportunity had been afforded for landing men, had they desired to do so, and that the French abstained from taking advantage of it, has, I am informed, produced an excellent impression on the Moorish authorities, who are now more inclined to believe in the good faith of the French officials, whereas they were before inclined to believe that they would seize the first pretext for landing men, and would even, if necessary, seek to bring about an incident for that purpose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[41325] No. 218.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 10.)

(No. 231.)

Sir, *Tangier, December* 2, 1906.

THE Shereef Ma-el-Aineen left Mogador with the bulk of his followers on the 17th ultimo by a steamer specially chartered for the purpose by the Moorish Government. It is the first time he has travelled by sea; and it is said that he had received news that his rich caravan was to be attacked and plundered whilst passing through the Sus.

His departure from Mogador was hailed with relief by the native population, who had been put under contribution for his benefit. He presented strong letters from the Sultan, ordering the authorities to provide him with all he might desire, besides paying him a large sum in cash. The local treasury was soon depleted by attempting to satisfy the Shereef's demands, and loans had to be made on all sides to make good the deficiency, but even thus, sufficient funds could not be obtained, and the wages of soldiers, &c., had to be allowed to fall in arrears.

It is difficult to explain the infatuation of the Sultan and Government for this man, who, it is said, enjoys but little prestige in his own district, and is abhorred by the people of the towns he visits, on account of his insatiable demands and the arrogance of his followers, who are uneducated savages. He and his followers have been loaded with presents in cash, goods, and arms, and have received grants of houses and lands in various towns and districts. He arrived at Mogador with a caravan of eighty camels, heavily laden, and added considerably to his stock whilst in that town.

On his departure he left some of his party behind to receive some goods, which were expected by sea and had not yet arrived, and the balance of a large sum of money, of which the Customs Administrators had not yet been able to complete the payment.

Unfortunately, the Shereef, who pays annual visits to the Court, exerts an evil influence on the Sultan. He is ignorant and fanatical, though he and his followers do not themselves observe the more inconvenient prescriptions of their religion, and he opposes all reforms and contact with Europeans.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[41326] No. 219.

Mr. White to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 10.)

(No. 232.)

Sir, *Tangier, December* 2, 1906.

IT would appear that Raisuli has realized that he and his agents have pushed matters too far, and that the patience of the foreign Powers is at length becoming exhausted, and that they are not disposed to tolerate his high-handed proceedings any longer.

He summoned his deputy, Ben Mansour, to Zinat some days ago, and is retaining him there practically in confinement, though not actually in prison. He is said to have upbraided Ben Mansour for his unwarrantable treatment of foreigners, which has caused the dispatch of warships to Tangier and the threat to land troops, and professes his ignorance of these proceedings, which he alleges were unsanctioned by himself.

It is impossible to foresee what line of policy Raisuli will now adopt, but it is generally believed that Ben Mansour will be reinstated in favour and be sent back to Tangier to resume his duties as Deputy-Governor, but with orders to be more careful in his dealings with foreigners. Messages with requests for advice, that have recently been received by persons in touch with Raisuli, would appear to indicate that he is anxious to disclaim responsibility for acts done in his name in the past and to gain the support of Europeans by fair promises for the future. Others, however, who are acquainted with him are inclined to think that Raisuli is likely, if he thinks his position becoming dangerous, to adopt the bold policy which has hitherto proved successful, and seize some influential foreigner to hold as a hostage.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT E. WHITE.

[41401] No. 220.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 10.)

(No. 219.)

Sir, *Madrid, November* 30, 1906.

IN your despatch No. 144 of the 21st instant, you have had the goodness to inform me of the informal observations made to you by the Spanish Ambassador on the subject of an identic communication made to the Spanish Government by the French and British Embassies early in September last, and which appears to have

been understood as implying a doubt as to the fidelity of Spain to her engagements with regard to Morocco.

The allusion is, no doubt, to the communication which His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires was directed by your telegram No. 43 of the 3rd September last to make to the Spanish Government in concert with the French Embassy, on the subject of the Sultan of Morocco's interpretation of certain Articles of the General Act of Algeciras.

The Memorandum accordingly sent in by Lord Acton, and forwarded to you in copy in his despatch No. 160 of the 5th September, concludes with the following paragraph:—

"Le Gouvernement Britannique espère que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Catholique, fidèle à la politique d'union avec l'Angleterre et la France que l'Espagne a suivie pendant toute la Conférence d'Algésiras, et aux Accords qui en sont la base, partagera cette manière de voir et écartera également d'une manière absolue la demande Marocaine."

I have not heard from Lord Acton that Señor Gullon showed any annoyance on receiving this communication. If his Excellency felt any, it must have soon passed away, for he has never alluded to the subject in conversation with myself since my return to Madrid early in October.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[41307] No. 221.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 10.)

(No. 384. Confidential.)

Berlin, December 7, 1906.

Sir,

A NOTICE appeared in the papers last night to the effect that the French and Spanish Ambassadors had made to the German Government an official communication of the identic notes which these two Powers are addressing to the other Signatories of the Algeciras Act, respecting the action which they have agreed between themselves to take for the protection of European interests in Morocco.

After recapitulating the contents of the notes, the notice goes on to say that their terms can only strengthen the view prevailing in Berlin that both countries desire loyally to keep themselves within the limit of the powers accorded to them at Algeciras.

I ventured to remark to the French Ambassador that the "Matin" had recently published a short paragraph about Morocco, under the heading "Les Allemands recommencent." For my own part I had looked carefully in the press for the past month without seeing anything which might be interpreted as showing an intention or desire on the part of Germany to make trouble. When I saw him at the weekly reception, Herr von Muhlberg had confined himself to telling me that he considered that the rumours of disturbances at Tangier were much exaggerated, but had not shown any inclination to pursue the subject.

M. Bihourd told me that the note had been very well received by Herr von Tschirschky, who said that of course he could only "take act of it," but that he could add that he did so "sans arrière-pensée aucune." No importance was to be attached to the article in the "Matin," which did not emanate, he thought, from their correspondent here, M. Pernaud, of whom he had a high opinion. He could only say that up to now—he could, of course, go no further than that—he had seen no reason for anxiety as to the attitude of the German Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. DE SALIS.

[41423] No. 222.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 10.)

(No. 488.)

Sir,

Paris, December 7, 1906.

M. JAURÈS, the Socialist leader, yesterday questioned the Government with regard to their policy in Morocco in a long speech, which was listened to by a full and attentive House. The speech is of interest, as it contains, though in an exaggerated form, the apprehensions felt in certain quarters (as reported in my despatch No. 443 of the 13th ultimo) lest France should be involved in complications in Morocco, or be forced by events into a course of action which would bring her interests into collision with those of other Powers.

M. Jaurès began by declaring his opinion that the policy of the Government in sending a force to Morocco before even the Act of Algeciras had been ratified was precipitate and unnecessary. The action taken by France and Spain was in excess of the mandate confided to them. He read out certain Articles of the Act, and asked how they covered such a measure as the dispatch of a force and the possible landing of troops, and what right the two Governments could invoke to justify the act of sovereignty which they contemplated on the coast of Morocco. In all the arrangements arising out of the Algeciras Conference special care had been taken by international diplomacy to place the Sultan and his rights in the forefront. The maintenance of the independence, sovereignty, and integrity of Morocco was one of the chief preoccupations of Europe, but what was to become of this policy now? The French Government could not invoke the Act of Algeciras *vis-à-vis* either to Europe or to the Sultan. M. Jaurès asked whether the Sultan had been consulted by the French Government, and whether he had given his consent to the proposed measures. Would the troops landed be under the orders of the Sultan, or, according to the terms of the Algeciras Act, paid by His Majesty? What would be the position of France and Spain if the Sultan were to oppose them and to rally against them the forces of Moslem fanaticism? Safety lay in a strict adherence to the provisions of the Act, and in binding other Powers to the sphere of action and their proper share of international responsibility as established by that Act. The fact that it was France which had led the way to independent action outside the settlement arrived at by the Conference of Algeciras was fraught with perils for the future. It would enable rival Powers to say to the Moroccans that their enemy was France, who alone menaced their independence, and the French Government would thus allow "un autre pays, resté en dehors de la querelle et de la tempête, d'apparaître au loin comme le protecteur et comme l'ami."

A passage of M. Jaurès' speech was devoted to a warning against the dangers of joint action with Spain on the lines contemplated by the Government, as calculated to revive former Spanish ambitions in Morocco, and he predicted that it would be a source of friction and difficulties between the two countries.

He also declared that it was not only in Tangier on the coast that a state of anarchy was to be observed, and that when an intervention in the coast towns had taken place the French Government would be appealed to by their citizens to safeguard their interest in the interior, and gradually France would be forced to answer for the maintenance of order throughout Morocco.

The same thing had happened in the case of Algeria. He read some extracts from Spanish papers which called for operations on a more extended scale, and cited a French paper, the organ of the "Alliance Républicaine Démocratique," which had published an article in the same sense.

I shall have the honour to transmit to you in another despatch a précis of certain portions of M. Jaurès' speech dealing with the more general aspect of Franco-German and Anglo-French relations.

M. Jaurès' peroration was greeted with applause on almost all the benches of the Chamber; but, in view of the small number of votes cast in favour of his amendment, this applause must rather be attributed to the success of his speech as an oratorical effort than to concurrence in his pessimistic opinions with regard to French policy in Morocco.

Several speakers afterwards gave their views on the Moroccan question, including M. Hubert, the Reporter of the Commission appointed to consider the Act of Algeciras, and Comte Boni de Castellane, and the debate was wound up by a speech from the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

M. Pichon began by stating that he would oppose facts, and facts alone, to the

brilliant oratory of M. Jaurès. The special rights of France were undisputed, and had been clearly stated by M. Rouvier on the 16th December, 1905, and by M. Bourgeois on the 12th April, 1906.

As regards the question of the police, it was true that this body would be inspected yearly by a Swiss officer, nominated, not by the Powers, as M. Jaurès said, but by the Sultan. This officer would not, however, interfere in either the command or the training of the police, but would merely make an annual Report to the Makhzen, a Report that must be communicated also to the doyen of the Corps Diplomatique. The fact that France and Spain provided the officers for the police, who were only to be inspected and reported on by a nominee of the Sultan, brought out still more strongly the privileged position of these two countries in Morocco. M. Pichon then drew a vivid picture of the state of anarchy reigning in the neighbourhood of Tangier, and enumerated the different outrages committed by natives on Europeans, the result of which was the collective note addressed by the Corps Diplomatique at Tangier to the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs. This note he read *in extenso* to the House. It was to be feared, the Minister continued, that matters would reach such a pitch that there would no longer exist even that "minimum" of order without which it would be impossible to proceed to the organization of the police. This then was the reason for the negotiations which resulted in the dispatch of war-ships to Tangier, and these negotiations were carried on openly and straightforwardly in conformity with the perfectly honourable and loyal intentions of the two Governments. The instructions sent to M. Jules Cambon at Madrid laid stress on the last point and also on the purely provisional character of any forcible measures that might become necessary.

M. Pichon then read the note concerted between the French and Spanish Governments which was communicated on the 5th instant to the Powers Signatories of the Acts of Algeciras. This note proved, that he continued, the two Governments were merely taking precautionary measures, and that it was necessary in the name of Shereefian Government "for its power and independence for the maintenance of its prestige that they would act, should it become absolutely necessary to do so."

The instructions sent to M. Regnault were that only extreme necessity would justify the landing of troops at Tangier.

Referring to the question of the frontier between Algeria and Morocco, the Minister for Foreign Affairs pointed out with what extreme moderation France had acted and was acting, in spite of the very large powers which she possessed.

The news from the frontier had recently been very disquieting, but the strictest instructions had been sent to M. Jonnart to take no aggressive action: "En aucun cas nous ne devons fournir de prétexte à ceux qui nous accuseraient de vues ambitieuses au Maroc."

M. Pichon then quoted M. Jaurès' own words in a speech on the 20th November, 1903, in which he stated that France had the right to take precautions against the possibility of Mussulman agitation against her. He personally knew enough of the Mussulman world from his stay in Tunis to be hopeful of their power of progress and social and economical development.

The relations of France with the Powers were excellent, and French foreign policy, he concluded, "ne masque aucune préoccupation différente de celles que j'ai indiquées; . . . . elle se tiendra d'autant plus volontiers dans les limites que l'Acte d'Algésiras lui a tracées qu'elles permettent de faire respecter les droits de la France et qu'elles sont un gage de paix et de tranquillité pour le monde."

On the conclusion of M. Pichon's speech, M. Jaurès expressed himself as relieved by the tone of his Excellency's statement. He, however, proposed the following motion:—

"The Chamber resolved to apply the Act of Algeciras in its letter and spirit, and, repudiating a policy of adventure, passes to the order of the day."

This was rejected by 456 to 87; and another motion accepted by the Government to the effect that the Chamber was confident of the Government's ability to make good the Convention of Algeciras with the rights resulting therefrom, and to guarantee the security of French citizens. This was passed by 457 votes to 56.

The Bill approving the ratification of the Act was then passed unanimously.

I inclose herein, extracted from "Le Journal Officiel," a verbatim report of the debate.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

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* Not printed.

[41016] No. 223.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 692.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 10, 1906.

I HAVE to inform your Excellency that an identic note in regard to the concerted action to be taken in certain eventualities in Morocco by the French and Spanish Governments for the protection of foreign subjects in Tangier was communicated to me on the 5th instant by the Representatives of France and Spain in this country.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[41569] No. 224.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 11.)

(No. 225.)
Sir, *Madrid, December* 8, 1906.

ON the 6th instant Señor Perez Caballero, Minister for Foreign Affairs, read to both Houses of the Cortes the identic Franco-Spanish Circular to the Powers which is already in your hands. His Excellency explained in a few words the nature of the precautions which the two countries have deemed it expedient to take in the interest of the security of life and property in Tangier, and he declared that in this matter Spain was proceeding "in close and perfect cordiality with France, in the most friendly harmony with the British Government, and in perfect friendship and solidarity with all the other Powers which at Algeciras proclaimed, together with Spain, the sovereignty of the Sultan and the integrity of his territory, the prevalence within its limits of commercial freedom and equality, and at the same time asserted, confirmed, and respected the special situation which was held in Morocco by Spain and France."

His Excellency's announcement was well received in both Houses, members turning with marked relief, in the Chamber of Deputies, from the heated political discussion which had preceded Señor Perez Caballero's speech to the consideration of matters which have not yet become the subject of party animosity.

In the Senate a brief discussion followed, Señor San Pedro, a former Minister for Foreign Affairs, showing signs of unwillingness to share the general satisfaction produced by the new Minister's declaration.

It was agreed to adjourn further debate till the introduction of the Bill for the ratification of the General Act.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[41571] No. 225.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 11.)

(No. 227. Confidential.)
Sir, *Madrid, December* 8, 1906.

THE declarations of the new Minister for Foreign Affairs concerning the joint action of France and Spain in Morocco, as briefly recorded in my despatch No. 225 of to-day, have tended to remove many of the objections which had been raised in the Spanish press to what was described in some quarters as a policy of adventure.

Even papers hostile to the Government have congratulated Señor Perez Caballero on the tact and delicacy with which he has handled the subject.

The French Ambassador assures me that the new Minister has given proof of a very different spirit to that which inspired his predecessor, Señor Gullon, and that he has found in his Excellency not only a sincere desire to fulfil in a straightforward manner the engagements binding Spain to France in matters relating to Morocco, but an accurate knowledge of the whole question, such as is possessed by no other Spanish statesman.

Señor Gullon's tendency to take no step without previous secret communication with Germany had been detected by M. Jules Cambon shortly after his return

to Madrid last October, and you are aware of the steps which both M. Cambon and myself have taken to impress on the Spanish Government a truer sense of the direction in which the Moroccan policy of this country should be conducted. M. Cambon has since received further confirmation of Señor Gullon's untrustworthiness in these matters, and he is much relieved by his disappearance from the scene.

I gather from his Excellency that the considerable modification of the text of the identic Circular which appears in its final edition, and which subordinates the request of the French and Spanish Ministers at Tangier for the landing of a force from the ships in the bay to a previous agreement with the other foreign Representatives, except in cases of an armed attack on the town, is the result of M. Pichon's examination of the question, and not, as I had supposed might be the case, of any Spanish representations.

I agreed with M. Cambon in thinking that the Circular has not materially suffered by this amendment, which, while giving satisfaction to certain Governments leaves undisturbed the main principle contended for, namely, that if armed intervention for police purposes proves to be necessary, France and Spain, and no others, are to be the intervening Powers.

The general acceptance of this principle M. Jules Cambon regards as constituting a considerable step in advance, and as amounting virtually to a new clause of the General Act of Algeciras explanatory of its provisions.

His Excellency informs me that Vice-Admiral Touchard, who left Madrid yesterday, was very well received by the King and the Spanish Government, and that his visit has produced an excellent impression. It has, no doubt, acted as a salve to Spanish pride, which was somewhat wounded by the reflection that Spanish troops were to be placed under the command of a foreign Admiral.

M. Cambon hears that the knowledge of the action which was being concerted by France and Spain has already produced a tranquillizing effect at Tangier, and his Excellency thinks it quite possible that the ships may very shortly be able to take their departure without making any armed demonstration ashore.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[41548] No. 226.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 11.)

(No. 489.)

Paris, December 8, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to my immediately preceding despatch, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a précis of the portion of M. Jaurès' speech in the Chamber yesterday dealing with the attitude of Germany and Anglo-French relations.

"Le Matin," published yesterday, in its summary of press opinions on the debate, an extract from the leading article in the "Times" of the 7th December, which stood out among the other press utterances for the acerbity of its attack on the leader of the Parliamentary Socialists and his group. In this article reference was made to the necessity of further German subsidies to the Socialist organ "L'Humanité."

M. Jaurès has replied in an article, copy of which I inclose herein.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 226.

Précis of M. Jaurès' Speech in the French Chamber, on December 7, 1906.

IN this question of Morocco, which forms a part of the Mussulman question, you should see to it that the responsibility of Germany is engaged in the eyes of the world in virtue of the Treaty which she has signed. What has been her policy for the last fifteen years? It is not unknown to you. Just as François I sought for support from the Turks in the 16th century when hard-pressed by the formidable power of the House of Austria, so Germany to-day, threatened with isolation in Europe and menaced by the rivalry of England, is inclined to lean towards the forces of the Moslem world, scattered about as they are, in Morocco, even perhaps in India . . . . I have spoken

of the more immediate perils which lie hidden in the Moroccan question. Believe me when I say that the world has never needed more than now all the wisdom which it possesses. The attitude of Germany is enigmatical, suspicious, and susceptible. She has suffered in the course of her history from great idealistic movements. It was she that brought about the Reformation, and the Reformation tore her to pieces, and brought upon her the Thirty Years' War. Her philosophers hailed the French Revolution, and the Revolution became for her, in the hands of a Cæsar, the cause of fresh invasions. It was then that she threw herself back upon a material policy ("une politique réaliste"), and sought her unity by fire and sword, by a policy of brute force. She was the last of European peoples to complete her status as a nation, and she reverted to a policy of force at a time when her compeers were penetrated by the spirit born in the Revolution, a spirit which proclaimed the rights of man and the rights of peoples.

The arrival on the scene of Germany as a great military Power caused in Europe an under-current of apprehension and misgiving; at the same time her magnificent industrial and economic expansion found a world already full and already marked out by others. Now she watches all events, asking herself what new conflict may spring from them, and whether the irresponsible power which directs her policy may not suddenly aggravate the difficulties and crises which arise in her path . . . . A period of such difficulties recently occurred; there were faults on both sides, imprudence and negligence on our part, brutality on theirs. A conflict seemed imminent, but it was averted by the Conference of Algeciras and the danger is past—but on one condition, that the settlement is observed by all parties.

It is not only Germany who needs to be guided by the counsels of wisdom. England also is in need of moderation and wise counsels. I can say it, for no one hailed with greater satisfaction than my friends and myself the reconciliation between our country and England. During the difficult days of the Fashoda question, English Labour Representatives came over to Paris and held out their hands to our workmen, and co-operated with them in the maintenance of peace. The best elements in both nations have seen in the friendship between France and England a means for preserving the peace of the world. But just as we have our "Chauvins," so England has her "jingoes," her Imperialists, and her groups of oligarchical interests. One can say so without offence to the great Liberal Government which now directs her policy, to the men who, when Imperialistic passions were let loose, did not shrink before insults and calumny, when no one could ask for moderation towards the Boers without being accused of being the enemies of their country—the eternal weapon of party strife. If once again those elements which were at the back of the Transvaal policy came to the front and sought to use the Anglo-French *entente* for their own selfish purposes, it is necessary that here in France the conscience of the nation should reply:—

"It is not thus that we understand the friendship between France and England. We have brought it about in the interests of civilization and of peace, and not for the sake of a policy of war, adventure, and rapine."

When I see the same great and powerful organs in England, which pushed on public opinion to the war in South Africa, encouraging and stimulating France to extend her action in Morocco, I feel that there exists a danger to which I am right to call attention.

Inclosure 2 in No. 226.

Extract from the "Humanité" of December 8, 1906.

LE "Times," commentant la séance de Jeudi sur le débat sur la question du Maroc, dit, d'après la communication télégraphique envoyée au journal le "Matin":—

"M. Jaurès a exposé hier les opinions et sentiments de son groupe d'une façon qui semble devoir rendre encore plus indispensables que jamais à l'existence de son journal les subventions Allemandes.

"Il faut croire que M. Jaurès est un patriote suivant les principes reconnus dans les cercles socialistes. Cependant, il serait difficile de se figurer un langage mieux fait pour faire du tort à son pays que celui que l'orateur socialiste a tenu hier.

"Il semblerait qu'il existe, dans la plupart des pays, des doctrinaires doués de

cette suffisance arrogante. A témoin les déclarations de nos anti-expansionnistes et des extrémistes qui sont qualifiés de 'sans-patrie' ('vaterlandslos') au delà des Vosges.

"Ce type d'esprit ignore les faits manifestes et évidents de notre existence. Ils croient connaître le chemin le plus court pour arriver à l'âge d'or.

"La France et l'Espagne, dans la note verbale, exposent leur politique. On ne saurait concevoir des preuves plus concluantes de la bonne foi des Gouvernements Français et Espagnol. Même la 'Gazette de Cologne' en convient. M. Jaurès est seul à mettre en doute la politique de son Gouvernement. Il n'est pas étonnant qu'en haut lieu, à Berlin, on soit très bienveillant pour les socialistes Français."

D'autre part, le "Standard" écrit :—

"Si l'on donnait à la France toute liberté d'action, elle s'entendrait sans difficulté avec l'Espagne d'une façon équitable. La France n'aurait pas non plus grand'peine à déblayer les débris d'un système politique complètement suranné.

"On pourrait conserver au Sultan et au Maghzen les apparences de l'autorité. Mais si le Maroc doit devenir une nouvelle Égypte, un grand territoire neutralisé ouvert au commerce de tous les pays, il faut que des Européens soient chargés d'exercer en réalité le pouvoir."

Je ne m'attarderai pas à relever ce qu'ont d'odieux les injures adressées par le "Times" à tous les socialistes Européens et à nous particulièrement ; et je me garderai bien de confondre le peuple Anglais avec le journal qui représente le capitalisme de proie d'une partie de la Cité. Si je tiens à mettre ces lignes sous les yeux de nos lecteurs, c'est parce qu'elles confirment singulièrement et qu'elles renforcent l'avertissement que je donnais hier. Les pires ennemis de l'amitié Franco-Anglaise, ce sont ceux qui voudraient en faire un instrument d'aventure et de rapine. Le "Times," par la violence même de ses outrages, a révélé ses mauvais desseins. Par bonheur, il ne traduit plus que la pensée d'un petit groupe d'hommes, d'une oligarchie restreinte, dont les manœuvres peuvent être aisément conjurées. C'est devant le peuple Anglais que nous faisons appel de ces ignominieux outrages. Le "Times" ne réussira pas à travestir notre pensée. Voulant la paix, condition nécessaire du progrès social en Europe, nous signalons tous ceux qui la menacent. Dans la mesure où le prolétariat Européen pourra agir, il ne livrera la paix du monde ni à l'absolutisme capricieux du Kaiser Allemand, ni aux impulsions téméraires du chauvinisme Français, ni aux combinaisons égoïstes de ce capitalisme Anglais dont le "Times" est l'organe.

Nous remercions le journal de la Cité d'avoir, par sa violence même, averti l'opinion Française. Et toute l'Angleterre s'étonnera sans aucun doute du ton de son intervention.

Pourquoi aussi le "Standard" s'obstine-t-il à être, pour la France, plus Marocain que la France elle-même ? Pourquoi nous invite-t-il à assumer seuls, au Maroc, toute la responsabilité et tout le pouvoir, alors que le Parlement Français et le Gouvernement Français proclament leur ferme volonté de respecter l'intégrité et l'indépendance du Maroc ? Le "Times" nous donne des leçons de patriotisme Français. Le "Standard" veut nous engager à fond au Maroc, et nous le donner malgré nous. C'est trop de zèle. Mais ces erreurs d'une partie de la presse Anglaise ne nous feront pas oublier que l'Angleterre, pays libre, est une garantie de premier ordre pour la civilisation et la paix, qu'on peut toujours, quand un peuple dispose souverainement de lui-même, appeler de l'erreur ou de l'égoïsme de quelques-uns à la sagesse et à la conscience de tous. Ce sont surtout les survivances de pouvoir absolu et incontrôlé qui sont un péril pour la paix du monde. Les injures du "Times" ne nous font point oublier ce côté du problème.—JEAN JAURÈS.

41554] No. 227.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 11.)

(No. 495.)

Sir, *Paris, December 9, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith an article from "Le Matin" by M. Harduin on the subject of French action in Morocco, and the attitude of England with regard thereto.

M. Harduin occupies a very special position in French journalism. He writes daily on current events under the heading "Propos d'un Parisien," and it is safe to say that every one who reads "Le Matin" reads his articles, which appear to appeal

especially to the public, owing perhaps to the vein of "raillerie" in which his more serious views are often given forth, and I believe that he makes a greater impression on the "man in the street" than almost any other journalist, as his attitude towards current affairs has always the appearance of independence and impartiality. He rarely alludes in his articles to questions of foreign policy, and has never hitherto shown anything but a friendly spirit towards England. The article, which is herein inclosed, is therefore worth some attention. M. Harduin seems to believe that England encourages France to adopt an active policy in Morocco, and has some hidden motive for so doing, and that there exists in England the secret hope of seeing a complete rupture between France and Germany as an outcome of the Moroccan difficulty. He says: "Oui, l'Angleterre nous aime trop. Or, il faut redouter sa haine, mais encore plus son amour. Cet amour la pousse à faire de nous son allié, son soldat sur le Continent. Elle a besoin de nous contre l'Allemagne, dont la concurrence commerciale et la marine grandissante lui apparaissent comme un danger."

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

Inclosure in No. 227.

Extract from the "Matin" of December 8, 1906.

ET voilà revenant sur l'eau l'affaire du Maroc, du dangereux Maroc qui a failli mettre aux prises 4,000,000 d'hommes n'ayant aucune envie de s'entre-tuer, tout au moins ne voulant le faire que pour quelque chose qui en vaille la peine.

Nous envoyons des cuirassés pour rétablir l'ordre.

Mais l'ordre a-t-il vraiment été troublé? Euh! euh! on ne sait jamais ces choses-là. Quand l'affaire Tunisienne a commencé, on nous disait qu'il s'agissait uniquement de mettre à la raison les Kroumirs, les redoutables Kroumirs, menaçant nos frontières. Personne auparavant n'en avait entendu parler; depuis, il n'en a plus été question ; de sorte qu'on est en droit de se demander s'ils ont jamais existé.

Le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères a déclaré que nous nous conformerions strictement au mandat à nous donné par la Conférence d'Algésiras. Souhaitons qu'il en soit ainsi et que nous ne commettions pas d'irréparables bêtises. C'est très important. Dans cette affaire, en effet, il y a ce qu'on voit et ce qu'on ne voit pas.

Ce qu'on voit, ce qu'on avoue, c'est la défense de nos intérêts Algériens et de nos intérêts économiques ; ce qu'on ne voit pas, c'est l'Angleterre qui, décidément, nous aime trop et nous pousse tellement à aller de l'avant qu'on se demande si elle ne désire pas qu'une complication nous brouille complètement avec l'Allemagne.

Oui, l'Angleterre nous aime trop. Or, il faut redouter sa haine, mais encore plus son amour.

Cet amour la pousse à faire de nous son allié, son soldat sur le Continent. Elle a besoin de nous contre l'Allemagne, dont la concurrence commerciale et la marine grandissante lui apparaissent comme un danger.

Ce n'est pas une raison pour que nous soyons avec l'Angleterre contre l'Allemagne, pas plus que nous ne devons être avec l'Allemagne contre l'Angleterre.

S'il plaît à toutes deux de se battre, que ce soit sans nous. Nous les regarderons avec intérêt et nous compterons les coups.

Un jour viendra où elles seront épuisées. Alors nous aurons un rôle à jouer. D'ici là, abstention. Nous avons assez souvent fait les affaires des autres; faisons un peu les nôtres. Une fois n'est pas coutume.—H. HARDUIN.

[41015] No. 228.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 156.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 11, 1906.*

THE inclosed communication on the subject of the joint action which the Governments of France and Spain propose to take in Morocco was left at this Office on the 5th instant by the Spanish Ambassador.*

* No 206.

I told Señor Villaurrutia, in reply, that I hoped that this communication would meet with the same favourable reception at the hands of all the other Powers to whom it was addressed as it did at those of His Majesty's Government, and I added that I had no reason to anticipate that this would not be the case.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[41678] No. 229.

Sir B. Boothby to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 12.)

(No. 201.)
Sir,

Vienna, December 6, 1906.

THE Vienna journals of this morning announce that the French and Spanish Ambassadors, the Marquis de Reverseaux and the Duc de Bailen, paid a visit yesterday to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to communicate the joint measures which their Governments proposed to take with regard to Morocco.

In the "Neue Freie Presse" appears the following statement, which the Spanish Ambassador is reported to have made to the representative of that newspaper:—

"I cannot for the moment communicate to you the details of the measures on which the two Governments have agreed. The question whether some of them will be adopted or not will largely depend on the turn affairs may take in Morocco. The special object of the two Governments is, at present, to protect foreigners at Tangier. As residence there is dangerous, the two Governments could not wait for the ratification by all the Powers of the Act of the Algeciras Conference. Moreover, that ratification is a pure formality. It is certain that Spain will not exceed the limits prescribed by the Algeciras Conference. I cherish the hope that matters in Morocco will not take a bad turn. Anyhow, the policy of Spain is now in good hands, for the new Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Perez Caballero, is an experienced statesman, and especially conversant with the Morocco problem, having been the Second Spanish Delegate at the Conference of Algeciras, with the Duke of Almodovar as his leader."

I have, &c.
(Signed) BROOKE BOOTHBY.

[41680] No. 230.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 12.)

(No. 386.)
Sir,

Berlin, December 10, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 384, Confidential, of the 7th instant, I have the honour to report that a Bill for carrying out the General Act of the Algeciras Conference was read a first and second time in the Reichstag on Friday last, and a third time to-day.

There was a short debate on the first reading, during which the leaders of each of the parties announced the intention of their friends to vote for the Bill, but took the opportunity to criticize again the action of Germany with regard to Morocco, and to demand for the Reichstag more complete information on foreign affairs. Questions were also asked as to the French and Spanish identic notes, and Herr von Tschirschky replied in terms similar to those of the communiqué which I reported in my above-mentioned despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. DE SALIS.

[42000] No. 231.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 15.)

(No. 234.)
Sir,

Tangier, December 5, 1906.

IN the course of a long conversation I had to-day with Dr. Rosen, the German Minister, he said that the situation around Tangier appeared to him no worse than it was a year ago, he admitted that foreigners, the Ministers not excepted, did not enjoy

the respect from the natives that they did in other Mahommedan countries, but too much had been made of the existing danger. I said I was unable to agree, for I had noticed a considerable change for the worse in the attitude of the natives since my arrival here eighteen months ago, and this was to a great measure due to the successful rapacity of Raisuli, and to the contempt in which he held foreigners as well as Moorish officials, and I observed that, even if it could not be admitted that the lives of foreigners were in danger, their property had in many instances been confiscated, or other illegal acts been committed to their detriment by this ex-brigand.

To this Dr. Rosen replied that no German subject had suffered, whatever might have occurred to subjects of other nationalities. This is probably true, but this immunity from persecution must be put down to the fact that the German Legation has from the first, for its own reasons, maintained good relations with Raisuli. Dr. Rosen, however, went so far as to agree that any acts committed by Raisuli contrary to Treaty must certainly be checked, and it was essential to establish quiet round Tangier. This view he assured me he had put forward strongly when at Fez, and had said to Ben Sliman that as man was generally judged by his face, so Morocco was generally judged in Europe by Tangier, and urged that all the energies of the Makhzen should be directed to establishing quiet here, and he thought he had made some impression. But he had doubts as to whether the Sultan's army now on its way here, composed, according to his information, of some 1,500 men, under Guebbas, the War Minister, an incapable person in his opinion, would bring about the remedy.

He regarded the possible landing of French and Spanish troops as fraught with great danger, and he received with an evident want of confidence and some suspicion my statement to the effect that I was convinced that there was no question of landing these troops unless there existed a real danger for the lives of foreigners here.

After repeated protestations that he desired to act in complete harmony with other Powers in carrying out the Act of Algeciras, Dr. Rosen said he was much annoyed that the press of various countries had accused him of dark designs in Morocco, and even of acting independently of his Government. He was specially hurt at a statement which appeared in the "Times" of the 27th ultimo in a telegram from Paris, declaring that German Agents were stirring up trouble in this country, and insinuating that he was, perhaps, carrying out a local policy contrary to the expressed views of his Government, and that if successful he would be approved, or, in the event of failure, his action would be repudiated. He did not like to leave such a statement uncontradicted, but had not yet made up his mind what course to follow.

I assured Dr. Rosen that no Government would take seriously the statement, as quoted by the "Times," that German Agents were living with Raisuli, and "egging him on" to resistance to the Powers, and he must be aware that we could not control the statements which appeared in the press, and I trusted he would not give them undue importance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[42001] No. 232.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 15.)

(No. 235. Confidential.)
Sir,

Tangier, December 5, 1906.

I WENT to-day at some length over the situation here with my French colleague, but he had little to add to what Mr. White has already fully reported.

It was true, he said, that the impression in France and Europe generally was that the German Government and people viewed the Morocco question with greater calm than some months ago, but he was not convinced that Dr. Rosen's attitude corresponded with this view. Dr. Rosen blew hot one day and cold the next. He was often unwilling to accept the situation as represented by his colleagues, and was inclined to create difficulties, and assert his individual opinion, but did not seem disposed to place himself finally in a minority, which might accentuate his attitude.

M. Regnault told me very confidentially that he believed Dr. Rosen had advised

Sid El-Hadj Mohammed El-Mokri to urge the Sultan to come to Tangier. Of this there has recently been some talk. Dr. Rosen's object, in M. Regnault's opinion, would be to make the presence of the Sultan here a pretext for Germany to send a ship of war, ostensibly in order to salute His Majesty in a proper manner.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[42002] No. 233.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 15.)

(No. 236.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 6, 1906.

DURING a visit I paid yesterday to Sid Torres on my return here, I took the opportunity of informing him of the substance of your telegram No. 44 of the 4th instant, relative to the projected monopoly of the manufacture of sugar, candles, and matches applied for by the Algiers and Morocco Company.

His Excellency told me he had received instructions from the Court to discuss the matter with the agent of the Company, and to draw up a draft contract of their proposals for submission to the Makhzen for its approval. He proposed, when forwarding the draft contract to the Court, to draw attention to the Treaties and Agreements such a contract would violate, and leave the Court to decide whether it could properly pursue the matter further.

Sid Benasser Ghannam, who was present during our conversation, expressed the hope that all possible assistance would be afforded by His Majesty's Government and by me in this matter, in view of the benefits the whole country would derive from it. It would certainly lead to an important increase of cultivation and find occupation for large numbers of His Shereefian Majesty's subjects. The Makhzen would also derive considerable revenues from the operations of the Company. As regards the question of the arms to be supplied by the Company, which I pointed out was contrary to Article CVII of the Algeciras Act, he replied that the offer was so advantageous to the Moorish Government, that he did not think a lower tender was likely to be made by anyone else.

In any case, he said, it was their intention, should any agreement be arrived at with the Algiers and Morocco Company to submit it to the Diplomatic Body here, and he trusted that the Moorish Government would then have the support of His Majesty's Government in overcoming any objections that might be raised.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[42003] No. 234.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 15.)

(No. 237. Confidential.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 7, 1906.

THE French Minister told me to-day that Cid Mohammed Torres had sent a message to Raisuli telling him he need have no anxiety as to the army which has left or is leaving Fez, as reported in Mr. White's telegram No. 84 of the 3rd instant, that there was no intention of interfering with him in any way, but that the object of the dispatch of these troops was to offer resistance to the possible landing of troops by France and Spain.

This action on the part of the Sultan's Commissioner was taken immediately after an interview he had had with the German Minister. M. Regnault was unable to say whether Dr. Rosen had had any share in this, but he was certain that the message had been sent to Raisuli.

It is quite possible that Cid Mohammed Torres, alarmed as he is at the prospect of Raisuli attempting to seize a foreigner, may have resorted to this means to keep him quiet pending the arrival of the Sultan's troops.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[42004] No. 235.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 15.)

(No. 238. Confidential.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 8, 1906.

M. DE RAPPARD, the Councillor of the Netherland Legation in Berlin, has arrived here in his private capacity, but has given out that he will be appointed as Minister Resident here as soon as the Chamber has voted the necessary credit.

Dr. Rosen, the German Minister, who now represents Dutch interests, has introduced him to the members of the Diplomatic Body, and has made no concealment of his pleasure at obtaining the support of another Minister in furthering his policy here.

M. de Rappard has, however, stated in confidence to an acquaintance of mine that he has no intention whatever of blindly following the lead of Dr. Rosen, and that his Government are desirous of assuming a more independent attitude here than has hitherto been possible.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[42005] No. 236.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 15.)

(No. 239.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 9, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that the French men-of-war "Suffren," "Charlemagne," and "St. Louis" arrived here yesterday, Vice-Admiral Touchard being on board the first named. No Spanish men-of-war accompanied them. Admiral Campion will leave to-morrow with the "Jeanne d'Arc" and the "Galilée," and leave the "Forbin."

The French Minister explains the absence of the Spanish men-of-war by the fact that no Minister of Marine has yet been named, and that the Admiral thought it necessary to wait and see him after he was appointed.

M. Regnault had to-day presented Admiral Touchard to Sid Mohammed Torres, and the Admiral had seized the opportunity to explain to the Moorish Commissioner the reasons for his coming here, giving practically a paraphrase of the explanatory note to the Powers. The arrival of the French fleet had been the signal for the Khalifa of Raisuli to arrest, flog, and imprison an Algerian subject, and M. Regnault seized the opportunity to demand his release, which, however, has not yet been obtained.

Sid Mohammed Torres, although evidently prompted as to the reply he was to give to Admiral Touchard, did not succeed in making himself very clear, but entered the usual protest that there was no cause for alarm, and that the Moorish authorities were quite able to deal with the situation. He told the French Admiral and Minister that he had no official knowledge of the arrival of an army from Fez, the same reply he had made to my inquiries on the subject. As you are aware, Kaïd Maclean accompanies this expedition, and the French military mission has been ignored, and this fact seems somewhat to agitate the French Minister, as he declares that an impression exists at Fez that the Sultan intends to do the policing with officers selected by His Majesty. I tried to reassure M. Regnault, and explained to him that Kaïd Maclean was accompanying the expedition like any other Kaïd in His Majesty's army, that he had no alternative but to obey His Majesty's commands, and that on the whole I thought the selection was a rather happy one, as we should now be able to obtain some information as to the movements and intentions of this army, and this, if it reached me, I would not fail to communicate to him.

M. Regnault said that at his suggestion the joint communication to the Makhzen of the explanatory note regarding the measures to be taken for the protection of the foreigners here had been postponed until it was possible to judge how it had been received in Europe. He and his Spanish colleague had, however, arranged to present it in the same manner in which this had been done in Europe, and intended to give it textually and in writing to Sid Mohammed Torres either to-morrow or the next day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD A. LOWTHER.

[42174] No. 237.

Sir B. Boothby to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 17.)

(No. 203.)

Sir, *Vienna, December* 1, 1906.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 133 of the 12th ultimo, I have the honour to report that in accordance with your instruction I took the first opportunity, after Baron d'Aenrenthal's return from Berlin, to thank his Excellency warmly on behalf of His Majesty's Government for his kind message to you on the occasion of his appointment to the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs. I added that you had been highly gratified to hear of his Excellency's appointment, as you knew that it would insure the maintenance of the traditional agreeable relations which have so long existed between the two Governments.

Baron d'Aehrenthal, after expressing his gratification at the terms in which you referred to his appointment, said that it had afforded him great satisfaction to be able to accede to your request with reference to the publication of a red book on the Algeciras Conference. His Excellency further stated that a similar request which he had unexpectedly received from Prince Bülow, when he saw him in Berlin, had done much to relieve him of the embarrassment which your wishes in regard to this matter seemed at first likely to cause him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BROOKE BOOTHBY.

[42304] No. 238.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 17.)

(No. 229.)

Sir, *Madrid, December* 11, 1906.

I HAD the honour to forward with my despatch No. 23, Treaty, of the 26th October last a translation of the Bill for the approval of the General Act of Algeciras, as submitted to the Senate by Señor Gullon, late Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The Bill came up for discussion in the Senate yesterday. Señor Rodriguez de San Pedro, ex-Minister for Foreign Affairs, while disclaiming any desire to prevent ratification of an instrument to which, for good or evil, Spain now stood committed, criticized with some severity its contents. He objected also to the terms in which the Senate Commission had reported on the Bill, and especially to the statement that it is an accepted principle of international politics that the more advanced nations have a right of pacific intervention in the more backward countries. The General Act had done no more for Spain than confirm a position which she already occupied in Morocco, in virtue of earlier Conventions. In other respects it had placed all nations on a similar footing, and Spain had therefore lost, rather than gained, by its provisions. The present action of France and Spain could not be justified by appealing to the text of the Act. Spain had no business to do more than protect her own subjects. If she looked beyond this she would be led into a policy of adventure.

Señor Perez Caballero had no difficulty in explaining that, though the General Act had equalized the commercial position of all nations in Morocco, it had fully recognized the special interests and duties of France and Spain from a political point of view, and that in those two Governments lies, in point of fact, the executive power by means of which the provisions of the Act will be applied.

The debate, which occupied one sitting only in the French Chamber of Deputies and in the German Reichstag, is likely to drag on for some days in the Spanish Cortes. Señor Perez Caballero, who spoke to me at some length on the subject last night, says there are two reasons for this. In the first place there are still a good many Spaniards who have given very little attention to the matter, and who honestly believe that Spain has been jockeyed into a policy of intervention by France and England. But the weightier motive is a purely political one. I have reported elsewhere the divergence of views existing in the Liberal majority between Señor Moret and Señor Canalejas. If these two rivals are allowed to join issue the Government must fall. The only way, therefore, to forestall another Ministerial crisis is to dispose as rapidly as possible of the Ratification Bill, and to close the Cortes without allowing any of the more controversial measures to come to a head. But the Opposition are not disposed to

make things easy for the Government. Hence their insistence on prolonging the debate, in the hope that the Liberal leaders will come to blows and bring the Government to the ground.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs tells me he has made a great point of communicating to the Sultan of Morocco the entire text of the identic Franco-Spanish Circular.

The French Government had considered that part only should be communicated; but they had accepted his Excellency's views, and Señor Perez Caballero thought the communication had probably been made yesterday by the French and Spanish Ministers to the Sultan's Representative at Tangier. His Excellency thought that a mistake had been committed in failing to inform the Maghzen simultaneously with the other Governments, and now at least, when the Circular was known to everybody, including certainly the Sultan's Agents at Tangier, the omission to communicate the whole text would be at once detected, and might give rise to misunderstandings.

As the point seems thus to have been settled, and my opinion was not asked, I avoided saying anything in the sense of your telegram No. 70 of the 8th instant, in which you had the goodness to inform me of the difference of opinion which existed on the subject, and of the view which you expressed to the Spanish Ambassador in London.

Señor Perez Caballero thinks that when the ratifications have been received in Madrid, which should now soon be the case, it will be proper for all the Representatives of the Ratifying Powers to sign, at the Spanish Ministry of State, a *procès-verbal* or Protocol recording the fact that the ratifications have been deposited there, as required by Article 121 of the General Act. I agreed that this would be the proper course, the Signatory Powers receiving each a certified copy of the document in question.

I forward herewith a copy of the Spanish Red Book on Morocco. Having only been able to secure two copies, I am keeping one for the archives of His Majesty's Embassy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[42275] No. 239.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 17.)

(No. 230.)

Sir, *Madrid, December* 13, 1906.

THE Senate adopted yesterday, after three days' debate, the Government Bill for the ratification of the General Act of Algeciras. The concluding speeches were on the lines of those delivered on the first day, which are briefly recorded in my despatch No. 229 of the 11th instant. One of the speakers, Señor Moreu, went so far as to say that the main object of the demonstration at Tangiers was to complete the isolation of Germany, and that Spain was acting very rashly in taking part in it. Señor Labra, a well-known Republican Senator, said it was impossible to discuss the Morocco question satisfactorily without knowing the contents of the secret Treaty between France and Spain. Other Senators, including Señor Abarzuza, a former Minister for Foreign Affairs, argued that Spain had lost ground at Algeciras, her position having been previously one of undisputed pre-eminence along the north coast of Morocco. But there was no disposition to prevent ratification. As already explained, there is a political reason for protracting the debate. The Senate also felt that, unlike the French and German Chambers, it had had no previous opportunity of discussing foreign affairs during the present session, and must, therefore, make the most of the Morocco debate.

The Bill is to come before the Chamber of Deputies to-day or to-morrow.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[42095] No. 240.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 17.)

(No. 386 A.)

Sir, *Berlin, December 12, 1906.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 386 of the 10th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith a translation of four questions relative to German policy in Morocco which were addressed to the Imperial Chancellor in a leading article of the "Berliner Tageblatt" of the 6th instant.

These questions, which form an indictment of German policy and German diplomacy with regard to Morocco and the Algeciras Conference, have received very considerable attention in the press, and have even been referred to by individual members in the Reichstag. There was a rumour that the Government intended to honour them with some sort of reply on the third reading of the Bill for carrying out the General Act of the Algeciras Conference on the 10th instant, but no official reference to them whatever has been made either in word or print. Herr von Holstein was interviewed by a newspaper correspondent on the subject, and naturally denied in indignant language the allegations of Question 4. There seems to be a general opinion that the four questions must be founded on some secret information obtained by the "Berliner Tageblatt."

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. DE SALIS.

Inclosure in No. 240.

Translation of Four Questions in the "Berliner Tageblatt" of December 6, 1906.

IS the Imperial Chancellor aware that in the year 1902, when France concluded a first Morocco Treaty with Spain, England protested at Madrid against the signature of this Treaty, and that this first Agreement was wrecked on the rock of English objections, to the grief of the Spanish and French Governments? Does not the Chancellor think that German diplomacy could have prevented the subsequent Anglo-French *rapprochement* and obtained advantages for itself by a skilful support of the Franco-Spanish wishes at that moment? Would not an attempt in this sense have been made even later if the hints of the Spanish Ambassador in Paris had not been missed and his efforts to bring about such an understanding not understood in time?

Is the Imperial Chancellor aware that, after the fall of Delcassé in June 1905, the French Prime Minister, Rouvier, offered Germany a special Treaty which might have been even more advantageous for Germany than the Franco-English special Treaty was for England? Is the Chancellor not of opinion that such a Franco-German Treaty would have robbed the *entente cordiale* of much of its importance, and would have balanced the Franco-English Treaty?

Does the Imperial Chancellor know—in the third place—that M. Rouvier approached the German Government, after the acceptance of the demand for a Conference, with the proposal that Germany should herself propose at Algeciras the creation of a Franco-Spanish harbour police, for which M. Rouvier declared that he already had in his pocket the consent of almost all other Powers? Does not the Chancellor consider that the German Government would have accepted this proposal, and thus avoided their "isolation" at Algeciras, if they had been better informed of the intentions and views of the other Powers?

Does not the Imperial Chancellor share the opinion that the German Government was badly informed as to these foreign intentions and views since the beginning of the Moroccan affair, and is he aware that the Emperor, while on his journey to Tangier—and till his arrival at Lisbon—was inclined to suppose that England secretly agreed to the German Morocco policy? Can the Chancellor say whether the then all-powerful Director of the Political Department, Herr von Holstein, strove to influence in the sense of his own personal policy the reports of the German Ambassadors abroad; or can the Chancellor give the assurance that the Representatives of Germany abroad were always asked for only a strictly matter-of-fact report—a report which was covered by their own observations? Would not the Chancellor—who, perhaps, left Herr von Holstein a free hand too long—consider any "colouring" of these reports, even when intended for the Emperor, as harmful and dangerous? And does it not appear to him to be the first duty of our diplomatists to report their impressions free and uncoloured, and uninfluenced by the bureaus at Berlin?

[42101] No. 241.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 17.)

(No. 392. Confidential.)

Sir, *Berlin, December 14, 1906.*

IN the concluding paragraph of my despatch No. 384 of the 7th instant, I had the honour to report to you the statement made to me by the French Ambassador with regard to the satisfactory character of his impressions as to the attitude of the German Government in connection with the dispatch of French and Spanish vessels to assist in the maintenance of order and security at Tangier. I was accordingly somewhat surprised to learn yesterday that Count Taube, the Swedish Minister, had stated in the course of an after-dinner conversation with Lord Granville that M. Bihourd had said that the attitude of the German Government had at first caused him the gravest anxiety, and had been so unsatisfactory that a rupture had been imminent.

An opportunity occurred yesterday of alluding to the subject of Morocco in the course of conversation with the Spanish Ambassador. Señor Polo de Bernabe then told me that when he had first mentioned the subject of the dispatch of vessels to Tangier, Herr von Tschirschky, after stating that he was only speaking in his personal capacity, and not as Secretary of State, had proceeded to speak at some length as to the dangers which Spain would run in embarking on adventures the end of which could not be foreseen, and had, in fact, used language which, I gathered, might be interpreted as showing a desire to dissuade the Spanish Government from co-operating with the French. Señor Polo de Bernabe had confined himself on that occasion to answering that Spain was not looking for adventures, but had important interests to preserve in Morocco, and could not view with indifference the establishment of a state of anarchy outside her door.

On a subsequent occasion, when it was proposed that the French and Spanish Ministers should be the judges of the expediency of landing troops, Herr von Tschirschky had raised objections, and M. Bihourd, who was also present, had proposed that such steps should only be taken "after the opinion of the Diplomatic Corps at Tangier had been heard." This phrase was subsequently altered in Paris when the wording of the identic note in the form in which it reached you was adopted.

There is an evident discrepancy between the optimistic language used to me by M. Bihourd and the more circumstantial information furnished by the Spanish Ambassador. I venture to think, however, that Count Taube may have exaggerated the purport of M. Bihourd's remarks to him respecting the gravity of the situation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. DE SALIS.

[42391] No. 242.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 18.)

(No. 240.)

Sir, *Tangier, December 11, 1906.*

WITH reference to Mr. White's telegram No. 84 of the 4th instant and my despatch No. 237 of the 7th instant, I have the honour to transmit a copy of a note addressed by the Moorish Commissioner to the doyen of the Diplomatic Body notifying the dispatch from Fez of two armies.

As you will perceive, the reason given for the presence of the armies here is to assist in the establishment of the police and to restore security in this district.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 242.

Sid Torres to Doyen of the Diplomatic Body at Tangier.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) *Le 24 Shoual*, 1324 (11 *Décembre*, 1906).

J'AI l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que le Maghzen Chérifien vient de faire partir de sa capitale fortunée pour la ville de Tanger deux mehallas, l'une sous le commandement du Ministre de la Guerre, Sid Mohammed-el-Guebbas, et la seconde sous le commandement du Chérif Moulay Abdeslam-el-Amrani, dans le but d'aider à la mise en pratique de la police et d'autres réformes conformément à l'Acte d'Algésiras, et d'établir une sécurité complète dans cette région et ses environs afin de faire disparaître tout ce qui peut occasionner de l'inquiétude et de mettre ainsi le Corps Diplomatique et ses ressortissants étrangers sous l'ombre de la sécurité, avec la grâce de notre Seigneur, en faisant disparaître en même temps tout ce qui peut leur porter ombrage.

Je vous fais part de cela afin que vous en prenniez note et pour que vous en informiez vos collègues.

Paix et salut.

(Signé) MOHAMMED-BEN-EL-ARBI-EL-TORRES.

[42392] No. 243.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 18.)

(No. 241.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 11, 1906.

THE French and Spanish Circular to the Powers explaining the reasons for the presence at Tangier of ships of those countries was handed yesterday by the French and Spanish Ministers separately to the Sultan's Commissioner.

To the French Minister Cid Mohammed Torres merely replied that it was a document of a very serious nature with which he could not deal personally, but would not fail to send it immediately to Fez by special courier. He does not appear to have expressed any surprise at its receipt, and he had probably been made acquainted with the contents of the note from another source.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[42589] No. 244.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 20.)

(No. 232.)
Sir, *Madrid, December* 16, 1906.

AFTER two days' debate the Bill for ratification of the General Act of Algeciras, which passed the Senate on the 12th instant, was unanimously accepted by the Spanish Chamber of Deputies yesterday afternoon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[42668] No. 245.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 20.)

(No. 129.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, December* 20, 1906.

IN the Cortes yesterday Minister of State admitted that the removal of Raisuli from the Governorship of the country around Tangier had been demanded by the foreign Representatives, but denied the report that 1,000 more Spanish marines were being sent to Tangier, adding that there had been as yet no need to send reinforcements.

[42691] No. 246.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 21.)

(No. 25. Treaty.)
Sir, *Stockholm, December* 17, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Official Gazette, published this evening, contains the announcement that His Majesty the King ratified on the 14th instant, on behalf of Sweden, the General Act of the International Conference on Reforms in Morocco, signed at Algeciras on the 7th April last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

[42813] No. 247.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 22.)

(No. 234.)
Sir, *Madrid, December* 17, 1906.

DURING the discussion which preceded the acceptance of the General Act of Algesiras by the Spanish Chamber of Deputies, the points to which the attention of the Minister for Foreign Affairs was more especially called were:—

1. The insufficient number of documents published in the Spanish Red Book;
2. The absence of information concerning the secret Treaty with France, which was known to exist;
3. The general contention that the position of Spain was better secured before than since the signature of the General Act; and
4. The fear that Spain was embarking on an adventure, the end of which it was impossible to foresee.

In reply, the scarcity of the documents was explained by the obvious inexpediency of raising fresh controversial questions which were now matters of history. The Minister for Foreign Affairs excused himself, on public grounds, from going into the question of the recent Treaty.

His Excellency argued further that it was safer to have the rights of Spain admitted by the thirteen Signatory Powers than only by England and France as before the Conference. On point (4) a full explanation was given of the reasons which had led Spain to join France in the present demonstration.

The two concluding speeches perhaps deserve special notice.

Señor Moret, ex-Prime Minister, and President of the Committee of the Chamber which reported in favour of ratification, began by calling attention to the unfortunate tendency, which he had noticed in some of the preceding speakers to depreciate the power and influence of Spain, and to argue that she has fallen too low to take any important part in matters of international moment.

This he held to be a great mistake. Spain had been compelled to abandon part of her territory, but she occupied a strategic position in Europe which must always make her friendship worth cultivating, and might enable her at times to throw in her weight with decisive effect. Señor Moret next alluded to the complaint that the Algeciras Conference had internationalized a region in which Spain previously exercised a predominating influence. The truth was that for many years past nations which formerly took no interest at all in Morocco had begun to concern themselves with its affairs. The Conference had only defined a state of things which had long prevailed. But Spain had fully maintained her position, and this she owed in the first place to England, which had expressly included in her Agreement with France in 1904 a clause reserving the rights of Spain. These were accordingly secured or defined in the subsequent Treaties between Spain and France. But all this had been superseded by the General Act of Algeciras.

Fears had been expressed of Spain being led on much further than her interests would counsel her to go. But there was no real cause for anxiety so long as she held fast to the fundamental propositions laid down at Algeciras, viz., the sovereignty of the Sultan, the independence of his territory, and the maintenance of equal commercial

opportunities for all. Prudence indeed was very necessary, but Spain must not shrink from maintaining the position which it was recognized at Algeciras that she held. Indeed, she could not remain neutral in these questions even if she would. She now had a definite policy, and she must act up to it.

Señor Pérez Caballero, Minister for Foreign Affairs, brought the debate to a close. Reviewing the events that led up to the Conference he said the Spanish colonial war in 1898 had coincided with the dangerous crisis of Fashoda. Happily the cloud passed over, and there was no longer any fear of Spain becoming involved in a conflict between France and England. But other difficulties arose. The Morocco problem came to the front, and, to prevent a settlement being come to without her interests being considered, Spain, under the Government of Señor Sagasta, entered into negotiations with France in 1901. Señor Silvela's succeeding Government abandoned the draft Treaty which resulted from those negotiations, but secured its main object by eliciting from England an assurance that, in any settlement of the question, she would see to it that the rights of Spain were respected. This was the embryo of the provision in the Anglo-French Agreement of 1904 to which Señor Moret had alluded. The Franco-Spanish Declaration of the 3rd October, 1904, followed, and soon after the Sultan of Morocco proposed the Conference, in which Spain was enabled to play an honourable part. She was not only entrusted with the task of instructing and organizing, with France, the new police force in the open ports, but she secured recognition of her privileged position along the Riff coast, and the right to appoint one of the four censors of the Morocco State Bank. Spain, therefore, like France, is recognized as holding a special position in Morocco, notwithstanding the provisions of the Act which equalize the rights of all the Powers in financial and commercial matters generally. Dealing with the present demonstration at Tangier, he said its objects had been sufficiently defined in the joint Circular sent to the Powers. Within a few weeks France and Spain would be sending their agents to the open ports to set on foot the new police. How could they set to work unless a state of peace and tranquillity prevailed? In Tangier especially this was necessary, and it was a principal object of the joint demonstration. The Chamber should not forget, moreover, that out of the 9,000 foreigners living in Tangier, 8,000 were Spanish subjects,

The Circular had been well received in all quarters, even by the Maghzen itself.

The future policy of Spain would aim at the full accomplishment of the provisions of the General Act, at the establishment as far as possible of the Sultan's authority, and at development of Spanish interests in the country. With the latter object in view, steps were already being taken to construct harbour works at Ceuta, Melilla, and Chafarrinas, and to remove the convict establishments which brought discredit on those Spanish possessions. All this had been too much neglected in the past. Spain must now set seriously to work to foster the commercial growth of the regions in which her interests are predominant, that is, the north-west coast of Morocco, and the coast fronting the Canary Islands.

Señor Pérez Caballero's speech produced an excellent impression.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[42913] No. 248.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 22.)

(No. 87.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, December* 22, 1906.

FOLLOWING sent to Madrid:—

I learn that the Minister of War, who is in command of the Moorish army, now only two hours' distant from Tangier, has instructions to effect Raisuli's capture by fair means or foul.

No risk to Europeans is, however, to be incurred, nor is anything to be done which might make a landing of French or Spanish troops necessary.

The Minister of War is in a state of alarm that a landing may be brought about by trouble caused by Raisuli's men.

(Confidential.)

Kaïd Maclean, who is with the army, is my authority for the above.

[41317] No. 249.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 149. Confidential.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 22, 1906.

I HAVE received Mr. White's despatch No. 223 of the 28th ultimo, reporting the selection of a German officer to organize a corps of Engineers for the Sultan.

I request that you will keep me informed of any further developments of this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[43023] No. 250.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 24.)

(No. 242.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 12, 1906.

VERY alarming rumours have been current the last few days to the effect that Raisuli had sent criers to the various markets in the Fahs and other districts between Tangier and Alcazar to proclaim a "Jehad" (Holy War), and calling upon the tribes to hold themselves in readiness to make an attack upon Tangier at a given signal. Raisuli was credited with being able to put about 15,000 men in the field if this call met with the response he anticipated. Pessimistic rumours of this nature are too often disseminated here, and I am unwilling to attach too much importance to them, but it is to be anticipated that Raisuli will take some action as a reply to the dispatch of the armies from Fez which he is fully aware are intended to disturb his present position.

Dr. Rosen is credited with the best information regarding Raisuli's actions and intentions, and I took an opportunity to-day to ask him what value he attached to these alarming rumours. He replied that, as far as Raisuli's intentions went, he believed they corresponded entirely with the reports, but he was very doubtful whether he would be able to carry them out, and whether, in view of the fact that the Sultan's armies were advancing, the tribes would think it politic to run such a risk.

Dr. Rosen spoke in a very different vein from his previous conversation with me, and said that the present position must be put an end to. Raisuli's jurisdiction, extending as it does to the very walls of Tangier, where his representative was employing high-handed methods, could not be tolerated, and he was of opinion that an energetic demand for his dismissal should have been made long ago. He added that on the occasion of the Charbonnier affair (see my despatch No. 96 of the 31st May) he had hinted to the French Minister that he was prepared to join in a very strong remonstrance and to support the French Minister in his demands, but he had met with no encouragement. He was credited with encouraging the Moors in obstruction and the passing over of acts of lawlessness, but he felt sure that no foreign Representative had spoken more strongly to the Moorish officials than he had, and he had pointed out to them that they were doing everything in their power to alienate the sympathies of Europe and to encourage a foreign occupation.

It is clear that Dr. Rosen's change of attitude may to a great extent be accounted for by his desire to prevent at all risks the landing of the French and Spanish troops.

If Dr. Rosen's declarations are sincere it cannot but have a good effect upon Moorish officials, but unfortunately they have long since lost their power, and Raisuli treats with contempt any instruction or advice he receives from the Moorish Commissioner.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[43024] No. 251.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 24.)

(No. 243.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 12, 1906.

MR. HARRIS, the "Times" correspondent, informs me that he has received a visit from Raisuli's Secretary, who brought him a message in reply to an inquiry as to whether it was a fact that Raisuli had instructed public criers to proclaim a holy war in the markets of the tribes to the south of Tangier.

Raisuli, according to his messenger, acknowledges the existence of anti-Christian agitation amongst the mountain tribes, but denies that he has fomented it, and alleges that the public criers have made use of his name entirely without his authority, as he desires to live at peace with the Europeans so long as they are actuated by proper feelings towards his country, and do not attempt to interfere in internal affairs.

Raisuli is aware that the expeditions dispatched from Fez are directed against himself, and that it is intended to put an end to his career. He is not, however, afraid of them, as he knows that they are ill-fed, starving, and without ammunition. He proposes to allow them to reach Tangier without impeding their progress. Upon their arrival in the neighbourhood he will inquire as to their object, and, as they will be in the territory under his jurisdiction, he will demand that they put themselves under his orders. Should a refusal ensue, he will attack them and drive them inside the walls of Tangier. Raisuli regrets that this may cause loss of life, and certainly loss of property, to Europeans in the outskirts of Tangier.

The Secretary referred to what the Pretender Bu Hamara had been able to do and the armies he had defeated, and added, "This time you will see even a bigger affair. You will see the defeat of the Shereefian troops followed by fighting all over the country, and where Bu Hamara failed, Raisuli, whose name is honoured throughout Morocco, will succeed. His position is unassailable. He has endless stores of arms and ammunition; his house is a fortress, and all the mountain tribes will flock to support him."

The Secretary added that if the foreign Representatives desire peace they must prevent the Shereefian troops from approaching beyond Sidi Yemani (about 30 miles from Tangier), for if they approached, they would certainly be defeated, and then God only knows what will happen.

If these troops are sent to Oujda, Raisuli will guarantee the peaceful introduction of reforms, but will require guarantees for his own safety.

These statements of Raisuli's are not without interest, but, although they seem very full of confidence, there are nevertheless indications that he realizes that he is in some danger.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[43025] No. 252.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 24.)

(No. 244.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 13, 1906.

DURING a conversation I had to-day with Sid Hadj Mohammed-el-Mokri, one of the Moorish Delegates appointed to draw up the Regulations in connection with the Act of Algeciras, I referred to the present unsatisfactory state of affairs in this district and asked his opinion as to the effect which the troops, now on their way here from Fez, would be likely to produce. He appeared sanguine that order would shortly be restored and said that the Government are determined to spare no effort to that end. The fact that the Minister of War is accompanying this expedition is proof of this, and also that the Government does not view with equanimity the presence of the French and Spanish men-of-war at Tangier.

He calculated that 8,000 troops are on their way here. This force, he said, is composed of 5,000 infantry, under the command of El Merani; 1,500 infantry from Fez, with the Minister of War; and 1,500 horsemen from the Gharb tribes, who are now at Laraiche, and are to join the expedition. A portion of this force would be split up into camps to guard the outskirts of Tangier, the remainder would operate in the Fahs district. In his opinion, Raisuli will not offer any opposition, as he is aware the tribesmen will not support him in sufficient numbers, they being weary of his constant exactions, which El Mokri says are greatly in excess of any taxation ever imposed by the Government. He gave me to understand that the Governorship of the Fahs will be withdrawn from Raisuli, and that this step will lead numbers of the tribesmen to desert his cause, and he doubts if more than 200 men will remain faithful to him, and he expects that Raisuli will try and make terms with the Government, who would be ready to offer him the Governorship of one of the mountain tribes, such as the Beni Aros, but would prefer to capture him and rid themselves of him once and for all.

Sid-el-Mokri then referred to the ships of war here and said the Moors had misgivings as to the real object of the troops they carry. It had, he said, caused considerable comment and distrust that only French and Spanish ships had been sent. Had each Power, having subjects in Tangier, sent a vessel, no unfavourable construction would have been put upon it, as every nation has the right to protect its own subjects, and such a measure would not have aroused any suspicion in the minds of the masses. He added that a report was current amongst the Moors that the Government had ceded the country to the Europeans, and that the force now on its way here was to complete the formalities of handing it over to them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[42594] No. 253.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 20.)

(No. 245. Confidential.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 14, 1906.

TELEGRAPHIC newspaper reports have reached here to the effect that Señor Perez Caballero had stated in the Spanish Chamber that not only had all the Powers of Europe unanimously agreed to the measures contemplated in the Franco-Spanish note with regard to the condition of affairs here, but that Sid Torres, the Sultan's Representative, had also, on behalf of His Majesty, expressed his approval of them.

This is not in accordance with facts.

Immediately after M. Regnault had presented the note in question, as reported in my despatch No. 241 of the 11th instant, the Spanish Minister called upon Sid Torres and handed him the note, which he was instructed to read, and of which he was to leave a copy. Sid Torres said M. Llaveria might dispense with reading it, as he already was acquainted with its contents. Following his instructions, he proceeded to explain "in the most courteous and respectful terms" that the decisions come to had been taken entirely with the desire to uphold the authority of the Sultan and in His Majesty's interests. Sid Torres confined himself to thanking the Spanish Minister for the communication, but he did not in any way commit his Sovereign to any approval of the measures in question.

I have sent a copy of this despatch to Madrid.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[43026] No. 254.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 24.)

(No. 25. Commercial.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 15, 1906.

WITH reference to Mr. White's despatch No. 24 of the 1st instant, I have the honour to report that Mr. Dick and his companions have left Fez, and are returning to Tangier without having presented the letter of introduction to Sid Ben Sliman, with which they were furnished by Mr. White, and without having had any communication with any of the Court officials.

During their stay at Fez these gentlemen had several interviews with Mr. MacLeod and with Kaïd Sir H. Maclean, who were both of opinion that they should prosecute their inquiries further and study the question more fully before putting forward any application to the Sultan.

Mr. Vice-Consul MacLeod has forwarded to me copies of two Memoranda communicated to him by Mr. Dick, setting forth the nature of the communication which the Share Guarantee Trust desire to submit to the Moorish Government. I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of one of these Memoranda. It is not necessary to trouble you with the other, which is addressed to Sid Ben Sliman personally, and goes over much the same ground as that inclosed herewith.

In forwarding these Memoranda, Mr. MacLeod points out that there is very little inducement held out to the Moorish Government to grant the Concession the Trust

seeks. The only return the Makhzen is to obtain for a Concession of some 2,000,000 acres of land for 100 years at a nominal rent is the payment by the Trust of the customs dues and other taxes to which they are liable under Treaty, and the prospect of increased receipts from such taxes. On the other hand, the Trust offers no guarantees whatever for the proper carrying out of the scheme.

Another important point to which Mr. MacLeod calls attention is that by Moorish law a lease cannot be granted for a term exceeding twenty years. This legal difficulty, Mr. MacLeod observes, is sometimes surmounted by paying a great number of years' rent in advance; but this course would lock up so much capital, and involve the loss of so considerable an amount of interest, as to defeat its own end in the present case. Mr. MacLeod also points out that the representatives of the Trust offer no evidence of the existence of the lands in the conditions indicated, and that no proper inspection has been made.

Notwithstanding Mr. MacLeod's criticisms of his scheme, and his advice that the Trust put forward no proposal until the matter had been further studied, Mr. Dick still expressed his desire to have an interview with Sid Ben Sliman and present his Memorandum, and inquired whether, in the event of Sid Ben Sliman inquiring of him whether these proposals had the support of His Majesty's Government, he would reply to his Excellency in the affirmative.

Mr. MacLeod, however, informed Mr. Dick that it would be impossible for him to do so without further instructions, and that he would have to reply to such inquiry, if made, in the negative.

Mr. Dick subsequently addressed a letter to Mr. MacLeod informing him that, in view of the fact that his instructions did not permit of his assisting him in framing a request for the Sultan's support, nor of his informing Ben Sliman that the proposals set forth in the Memorandum had the support of His Majesty's Government, he was returning to Tangier to discuss the matter with me and to receive instructions from England.

I propose, when Mr. Dick presents himself here, to inform him that I indorse the views expressed to him by Mr. MacLeod, and that I am unable to support him in presenting his scheme, which is much too vague, to the Moorish Government, and that I have referred the matter to you for instruction. Your directions, conveyed to Mr. White in your despatch No. 20 of the 20th September, were to the effect that His Majesty's Legation was to render assistance in the prosecution of the inquiries to be made by the Trust.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 254.

Memorandum by Mr. A. Dick setting forth the nature of the Communications which the Share Guarantee Trust desire to submit to the consideration of the Moorish Government.

THE Share Guarantee Trust of London are directly and indirectly largely connected with or interested in agricultural, pastoral, and kindred enterprises in various parts of the British Empire, and through its representative, after having the honour of being duly provided with a letter of introduction from His Britannic Majesty's Government, are desirous of submitting the following communications to the Moorish Government, in accordance with the tenour of the afore-mentioned letter of introduction.

2. After earnest and exhaustive inquiries from British Consular and other official documents and Reports, after interviews with British Consuls, merchants, shipowners, and others directly and indirectly connected or concerned with the trade of Morocco, and, finally, after receiving the Report from a Special Commissioner whom they dispatched to examine into the present and future prospects of the ports on the Atlantic seaboard of Morocco which are opened to trade, the Share Guarantee Trust have taken special note of the fact that whilst there exist in Morocco no sources of revenue from manufactures or industries, nevertheless there are to be found in that country large tracts of land which, as agricultural enterprise is now understood and carried on, are in a practically undeveloped condition.

3. The Share Guarantee Trust are therefore abundantly satisfied that there exists in Morocco a large field for the exercise of British enterprise, if founded upon secure bases, and having the support of the British and Moorish Governments.

In the opinion of the Share Guarantee Trust, the large tracts of fertile lands above referred to are of very great potential value, if properly and systematically developed on methods which have been so successfully adopted wherever British energy has been directed, whether in India, Egypt, New Zealand, South Africa, or elsewhere in the British Colonies throughout the world.

4. The Share Guarantee Trust are convinced that these lands will be worth more than mines of gold and silver as State revenue producers to the Government if carefully utilized.

5. The Share Guarantee Trust, being imbued with these views, have accordingly dispatched their representative to Fez, with the object of approaching His Majesty the Sultan through His Majesty's Ministers, in order to secure His Majesty's august patronage, favour, and support in obtaining leases of selected lands for as long periods as possible, so as to insure the success of these agricultural operations.

6. In order to be properly armed in inaugurating their enterprise, and in order that the same may be in due course firmly established with His Majesty the Sultan's patronage, favour, and support, the Share Guarantee Trust respectfully request to be provided, firstly, with a general "Dahir" to the Governors, officials, and inhabitants of the districts within a distance of say 50 miles of the seaboard from the town of Dar-al-Baida to the town of Mogador, instructing such Governors, officials, and others to afford the Trust all possible assistance, and especially do the Trust desire letters to the Kaïds of the districts of the Showia, Dukkala, Abda, Sheidwa, and Blad Ahmar, and to the Kaïds of the towns of Dar-al-Baida, Mazagan, Saffi, and Mogador, instructing such Kaïds of districts and towns to assist the Trust in obtaining at nominal rentals leases of lands with all water rights which in due course shall be selected, for periods not less than 100 years.

7. In consideration for such leases of land with all water rights at nominal rentals, the Trust will furnish all requisite capital and the necessary implements, means, &c., to do all that is humanly possible to honestly develop the lands selected, so as to render these of advantage to His Majesty the Sultan's Government, and yielding profit thereafter to the Trust, the Kaïds, the labourers and all concerned in improving and tilling the land.

8. The Trust will pay all the just and reasonable taxes which are according to Moorish law imposable or payable on the produce of the cultivation of the land.

9. As it is the express desire that all shall benefit in the development of the land, whether of the highest or lowest degree, but in due proportion, and in order that His Majesty the Sultan's Government may be afforded every means of following the steps and actions taken by the Trust at all times, the Trust are anxious and willing that the Sultan shall nominate not more than three nor less than two Ministers to act in conjunction with the British Administrators, and so that the enterprise shall be deemed Moorish also in conception, and have Moorish safeguards, the Trust will accept subscriptions from any of His Majesty the Sultan's subjects.

10. The Executive will be placed in the hands of men of undoubted integrity, and specially skilled in agricultural operations, and it will be a fundamental principle that the land shall be tilled only by local labour, and every encouragement and inducement given to the fellaheen to till, and be instructed in tilling, the land.

No vexatious or factious actions or questions will, so far as is reasonably possible, be permitted to interfere with the pleasant relations which it is the firm intention and desire of the Trust to establish with all engaged in converting the land into profit, and earning a livelihood out of its produce as husbandmen, tenantry, or in other ways. It will be the object of the men selected for the Executive to do all that is possible to enlist the sympathetic support of the fellaheen in their work, in the same manner as other well-established agricultural enterprises which have been and are so successfully managed in different parts of the world under British domination.

11. The fellaheen will be instructed in all the arts of husbandry, including instruction—

(*a.*) In the characters of the various soils and the qualities of the manures and fertilizers which are requisite to make the land more productive.

(*b.*) In ploughing the land with modern and up-to-date implements, so that large tracts can be prepared for crops at the least possible expenditure of money and time.

(*c.*) In the quality and character of the crops to be sown, and in the rotation of cultivation of crops based on local and other experience.

(*d.*) In the modern, economical, and practical methods of reaping, harvesting, storing, transporting, and marketing the crops.

(*e.*) In carefully storing and utilizing the waters of streams and rivers by dams, canals, and water-wheels, so as to preserve the crops against the effects of drought and the land against the failure of rainfall.

(*f.*) In making the necessary roads and light tramways on the lands for the purposes of cultivation.

(*g.*) In the breeding of cattle, sheep, and goats, and in utilizing the best strains from England and the British Colonies for crossing with the native cattle, &c., so as to improve the latter.

(*h.*) In the preparation and cultivation of proper pasture land for cattle breeding, and the utilization of the best herbage and grasses, such as sainfoin, lucerne, trefoil, &c.

(*i.*) In all ways with the sole object of improving the land and deriving the most advantage at the least possible cost.

12. The essence of the methods which the Share Guarantee Trust will adopt is that the capital employed and to be employed shall be expended on and in the selected lands, and the profit of all concerned obtained only from the produce of the crops, &c.

It is therefore necessary that the leases to be obtained shall be for as long a period as possible, to allow for the due repayment of the principal invested in making the land profitable.

The larger the area cultivated the less need the margin of profit be to produce very handsome returns, and, inasmuch as more land can be made ready for seed in a few hours by modern methods than can at present be ploughed in weeks or months by the means at present in vogue in Morocco, the field for agricultural enterprise in that country is practically limited only by the extent of the area cultivated.

13. Roughly, there are at least 6,000,000 acres in the area comprised, 50 miles inland from, say, Dar-al-Baida to Mogador, and if only 2,000,000 of these acres are cultivated under the care of the Share Guarantee Trust, yielding a net profit of 5*s.* an acre, after providing for all expenses, taxes, and reserves, sinking of capital and other provisions, this would be equal to an annual profit of 500,000*l.*, which is equal to 10 per cent. on a capital of 5,000,000*l.*

Thus the whole capital will be invested in or on the land to the benefit of Morocco as a country, and in view of the profitable character of the proposed operations if conducted on a large scale under honest and efficient management, a new era of prosperity such as the country has never previously experienced is opened.

The extent of this prosperity can be realized if all the lands which are cultivable were being employed to the best advantage and earning revenue, and in a few years Morocco should be as relatively rich a country as Egypt is now under British auspices.

Fez, November 30, 1906.

[43054] No. 255.

Sir M. Durand to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 24.)

(No. 225.) *Washington, December* 13, 1906.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that the question of the ratification of the Algeciras Convention came up for vote yesterday in the Senate in Executive Session. The Convention was accepted with the necessary two-thirds majority, but the Democratic Senators had displayed some uneasiness over the matter, and were only appeased by the insertion in the Act of Ratification of a disclaiming clause proposed by Mr. Bacon of Georgia. In this clause it is declared that the United States' participation in the Conference was for the sole purpose of increasing and preserving its commerce, the life and property of its citizens in Morocco; of removing friction which seemed to menace peace between the Powers signatory to the Treaty of 1880, and with no purpose of departing from the traditional American foreign policy, which forbids participation by the United States in the settlement of political questions which are entirely European in their scope.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. M. DURAND.

[42956] No. 256.

Sir F. Lascelles to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 24.)

(No. 405.)

Sir, *Berlin, December* 21, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch which I have received from Colonel F. Trench, Military Attaché to this Embassy, relating to the appointment of Captain von Tschudi for duty at Fez.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANK C. LASCELLES.

Inclosure in No. 256.

Colonel Trench to Sir F. Lascelles.

(No. 27.)

Sir, *Berlin, December* 19, 1906.

IT is reported that Captain von Tschudi, attached to No. 1 Telegraph Battalion, who was up to last year instructor to the Balloon Battalion, and is also a member of the Committee of the Berlin Balloon Club, has been detailed for duty at Fez at the Court of the Sultan of Morocco.

Another member of the Balloon Club, Lieutenant Wolff, of the Würtemberg Dragoons, and till recently at the Military Technical Academy, is said to be accompanying him.

It seems not impossible that one of the duties of these officers at Fez may be the installation of a wireless telegraph station.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. TRENCH,
Colonel and Military Attaché.

[43388] No. 257.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 27.)

(No. 88.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, December* 27, 1906.

THERE is some fear that this Legation and its members living in the neighbourhood may be in danger if, as is the present intention of the Sultan's troops, the capture of Raisuli's Khalifa near the town gates is attempted.

I have received an offer from the French Minister to send a few men from the French ships for my protection. I said this might create a panic, as I feared the arrival of the men would be known immediately, but I have requested the Minister of War, through Kaïd Maclean, when he is contemplating such an attempt, to give me timely warning. We have plenty of Moorish troops in the grounds for our protection, if they are trustworthy, and I will only accept M. Regnault's offer if absolutely necessary.

I do not myself fully share the apprehension to which I have alluded.

[43487] No. 258.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 28.)

(No. 89.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, December* 28, 1906.

RAISULI'S Khalifa has withdrawn from here, and the Sultan's letter relieving Raisuli himself of his Governorship has been read in the mosque.

[43637] No. 259.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 29.)

(No. 90.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, December* 29, 1906.

IT seems probable that the Makhzen will now succeed in getting rid of Raisuli. Should their efforts be successful, shall I send a strong note to the Court pressing for the capture and punishment of Valiente?

The moment seems favourable to such action.

See my despatches Nos. 290 and 299 of the 7th and 17th December, 1905.

[43698] No. 260.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 31.)

(No. 246.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 17, 1906.

WITH reference to Mr. White's despatch No. 217 of the 24th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez reporting that he had handed to Sid Ben Sliman the letter addressed to his Excellency by the Dean of the Diplomatic Body in regard to the state of affairs at Tangier.

The Vizier, in reply to Mr. MacLeod's verbal representations on the subject, observed that the Sultan and Makhzen were themselves also indignant at this state of affairs, and that it was with a view to putting a stop to it that the Minister of War had been dispatched to Tangier at the head of a body of selected troops.

From the language held by Sid Ben Sliman to himself and to his French and German colleagues when they spoke to his Excellency on the subject, Mr. MacLeod is of opinion that the troops are intended to do no more than to protect Europeans against the arbitrary proceedings of Raisuli and not apparently to effect Raisuli's arrest.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 260.

Vice-Consul MacLeod to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 64.)
Sir, *Fez, December* 13, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that in pursuance of Mr. White's despatch No. 28 of the 1st instant, received on the evening of the 8th, I visited the Vizier for Foreign Affairs on the 9th instant.

I handed him the Diplomatic Body's note, and therafter called his special attention to the injuries the present state of things at Tangier had been, and was still, causing to British subjects, as shown in the Memorandum, which I read to the Vizier, inclosed in Mr. White's said despatch.

The Vizier replied that he had heard of these and many other like cases. The Sultan and the Moorish Government were no less indignant than ourselves at this state of things. His Majesty the Sultan had meanwhile therefore dispatched a body of his best troops to Tangier under the command of the Minister of War in person, and this measure the Vizier trusted would put an end to the present state of things.

From the general tenour of the language held by the Vizier to the French Consul, the acting German Consul, and myself, it seems that the Moorish Government aim, for the meantime at least, at no more than the creation by these troops of such a barrier round Tangier as will make it impossible for Raisuli to impose his will upon the persons and properties of Europeans round Tangier.

The Acting German Consul, Dr. Vassel, received some days before me directions to make representations to the Vizier for Foreign Affairs about the state of Tangier, and did so without consulting his colleagues.

The French Consul had not received his instructions when mine arrived, but assured me in advance that he would, and subsequently he did so, speak in similar terms to myself.

As the Spanish Consul here is, I understand, not on speaking terms with the Viziers

(who are said to have asked for his recall on account of the incident reported in my despatch No. 59 of the 22nd ultimo), I did not embarrass him by asking what he might think of doing in regard to these representations, nor have my French and German colleagues consulted with him about them.

I inquired to day of Dr. Vassel what had passed between him and the Vizier on this subject. From Dr. Vassel's answer it seemed that his general representation and the reply given were in the same senses as those of and to the French Consul and myself to all appearance. But Dr. Vassel read to me two reports he had sent to his Minister of these representations. From these it appeared that Dr. Vassel had been at some pains to impress upon the Vizier that no German subject had any complaint to make about the state of things at Tangier. But he (Dr. Vassel) had, however, been furnished by his Minister with a list of French complaints in the matter, which, as the Sultan's good friend (and so on), the German Minister earnestly advised the Moorish Government to settle without delay. Both the Vizier and Dr. Vassel seemed to have enjoyed keenly the irony of this situation.

I could not gather that the Vizier had promised to take this advice, nor that Dr. Vassel had warned him of any harm being likely to follow from Germany or elsewhere should it be disregarded.

In the second of the reports referred to Dr. Vassel expatiated on the sincerity and keenness of the Court over the policing of the ports, particularly Tangier, upon which subject he and the Vizier seemed to have had long conversations.

Of course, I made no remark to Dr. Vassel, but in view of the total immunity from injury by the insecurity in Tangier district which the German Minister had said his compatriots enjoyed, and that by the General Act of Algeciras the policing of the ports was assigned to France and Spain, I could not see why properly Dr. Vassel should be occupying himself with the matter with such interest.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. MACLEOD.

P.S.—I need hardly add that I mention these reports of Dr. Vassel's in a confidential way, as I should be sorry if aught were to happen to make him less communicative in future.

J. M. M.

[43699] No. 261.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 31.)

(No. 247.)
Sir, *Tangier, December* 18, 1906.

AT the suggestion of the French Minister, a meeting of the Diplomatic Body was held to-day to consider the advisability of sending a reply to Ben Sliman's note of the 11th instant, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith. In this note his Excellency explains the conditions under which the Minister of War has been dispatched to Tangier in order to pacify this district.

M. Regnault explained that, although the note was to a certain extent satisfactory, he thought the moment favourable for us to request that more precise instructions be given to the Minister of War, and this without delay, in order to dispel the idea which existed amongst many Moors that the Sultan's army was coming here as a protection against the foreign forces. He was of opinion that we should ask for the dismissal of Raisuli. The delay in the arrival of those armies had encouraged the belief that no serious action was intended against Raisuli. Moreover, our previous note had not defined with sufficient precision what we hoped the Sultan would do to re-establish security.

The meeting, with the exception of the German Minister, appeared to share M. Regnault's views. Dr. Rosen, however, urged that, as the Makhzen had shown the best will in dispatching these armies, we should wait until the Minister of War had failed in his mission before addressing the Makhzen again, that we should do nothing to incite the Government troops to make an attack, as this would endanger the lives of Europeans here, and he pointed to the present calm and to the general reports that Raisuli had taken no extraordinary measures to protect himself as encouraging symptoms. To this I observed that these facts would rather indicate that Raisuli had already made arrangements with the Makhzen, thus living in full confidence of immunity from

attack. Dr. Rosen also maintained we had no right to demand the dismissal of Raisuli; all we could ask for was that he should be removed from the immediate neighbourhood of Tangier, say, 10 kilom., the distance within which foreigners could, under the Algeciras Act, purchase land without special permission; if we asked for more we should be interfering with the internal affairs of the country.

In the course of discussion, it transpired that Dr. Rosen had, while at Fez, asked for and obtained the dismissal of a Kaïd for threatening a German subject in the neighbourhood of Marakesh.

Eventually the German Minister agreed to the immediate dispatch of the note under discussion, and accepted the version "éloigner définitivement" in the place of "destitution."

A copy of the note which it was agreed to send to Ben Sliman is inclosed herewith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 261.

Sid Ben Sliman to Senhor Ferrão.

(Après compliments d'usage.) *Le* 24 *Chawal*, 1324 (11 *Décembre*, 1906).

J'AI reçu votre lettre, par laquelle vous m'entretenez, de la part des Représentants des Puissances étrangères, de la situation actuelle de Tanger et des agissements de Raisuli et de ses auxiliaires qui occasionnent des troubles, de violation et de préjudices aux habitants et aux étrangers, à tel point que la situation de la ville a failli devenir intolérable par suite d'une recrudescence d'événements inquiétants. Vous espérez que Sa Majesté Chérifienne remédie à cet état de choses en prenant les mesures suffisantes pour enrayer les dangers. J'ai compris l'exposé que vous avez fait à cette occasion et en ai pris bonne note.

J'ai porté ce qui précède à la connaissance de Sa Majesté Chérifienne, qui déjà avait été informé des incidents survenus dans cette région. Mon Auguste Maître a regretté cet incident (état de choses) et en a été vivement affecté tout en manifestant une grande émotion (s'est levé et s'est rassis). Rien n'a paru suffisant aux yeux de Sa Majesté Chérifienne pour remédier à cette situation que l'envoie du chef des askaris fortunés accompagné des contingents qui ont été trouvés disponibles dans un moment de précipitation à la Cour Chérifienne.

Le chef des askaris doit se rendre en toute hâte dans cette région pour punir les agitateurs qui s'y trouvent, supprimer les fauteurs des troubles et anéantir les gens qui s'adonnent à la rebellion et qui s'écartent du droit chemin. Sa Majesté est vivement préoccupée de pacifier la dite région et de rétablir la sécurité. Elle ne cessera d'envoyer des renforts suffisants pour atteindre le but poursuivi jusqu'à ce que la tranquillité et la paix soient rétablies dans cette région comme par le passé.

(Signé) ABDELKRIM BEN SLIMAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 261.

Senhor Ferrão to Sid Ben Sliman.

Le 18 *Décembre*, 1906.

LE Corps Diplomatique a pris connaissance de la lettre de Sid Torres, par laquelle il lui notifie l'arrivée prochaine de deux Mehallas; l'une sous le commandement de Mulay, Absalam-el-Murani, l'autre sous le commandement du Ministre de la Guerre, Si Mohamed Guebbas, ainsi que de la lettre de votre Excellence du 24 Chawal, 1324. Il a lu avec plaisir les indications contenues dans les dites lettres, notamment que les deux forces militaires étaient envoyées à Tanger pour aider à la mise en pratique de la réforme de la police et des autres réformes conformément à l'Acte d'Algésiras, en vue de supprimer l'inquiétude dans la région et de placer le Corps Diplomatique et les ressortissants étrangers dans une sécurité complète en punissant les agitateurs et les fauteurs de désordre.

Le Corps Diplomatique est heureux de trouver dans ces lettres les marques de la sollicitude de Sa Majesté Chérifienne pour la paix et la prospérité des Colonies étrangères, ainsi que l'expression renouvelée de son désir sincère de coopérer à

l'application des réformes arrêtées à l'Algésiras. Il estime que ces résultats si féconds ne sauraient être atteints si l'autorité de Sa Majesté Chérifienne et de son Makhzen n'est pas intégralement respectée et si Raisuli, qui a étendu ses pouvoirs jusqu'aux portes de la ville, n'est pas éloigné définitivement de la province de Tanger, ainsi que les agents établis par lui. Le Corps Diplomatique est unanimement d'accord pour demander que des ordres précis soient adressés à Si Mohammed Guebbas pour qu'il restore sans tarder l'autorité du Pacha de Tanger, en donnant à ce fonctionnaire les attributions et les pouvoirs d'un Gouverneur dans la province et particulièrement dans la zone où Sa Majesté Chérifienne a accordé aux étrangers la faculté d'acquérir des propriétés immobilières sans autorisation spéciale ainsi qu'il est dit à l'Article 60 de l'Acte Général d'Algésiras.

C'est par ces mesures que la tranquillité sera rétablie, que la confiance renaîtra et que la réforme de la police pourra recevoir sa pleine exécution conformément à la volonté de Sa Majesté Chérifienne, que Dieu l'assiste.

Le Corps Diplomatique prie votre Excellence de porter ce qui précède à la connaissance de Sa Majesté.

Paix, &c.

(Signé) MARTENS FERRAO.

[43700] No. 262.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 31.)

(No. 248.)

Sir, *Tangier, December* 18, 1906.

WITH reference to Mr. White's despatch No. 146 of the 15th August, I have the honour to report that the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs has informed me of the death in the Morocco city prison of Mesod Ben Embark-el-Maashi, the second of the two murderers of Mr. Madden at Mazagan, who were sentenced to imprisonment for life.

There are no means of corroborating these statements, but I have no reason to believe that they are not correct.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[43701] No. 263.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 31.)

(No. 249.)

Sir, *Tangier, December* 20, 1906.

UPON receipt of your despatch No. 138 of the 22nd ultimo, Mr. White addressed a note to the Portuguese Minister, as Dean of the Diplomatic Body, inquiring whether, in view of no reply having yet been received to the letter addressed to Sid-ben-Sliman in regard to the suggested abolition of slavery in Morocco, it was not desirable to approach the Moorish Government again on the subject.

I have the honour to transmit herewith translation of a letter which the Portuguese Minister has addressed to Sid-ben-Sliman in accordance with an unanimous decision of the foreign Representatives.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 263.

Senhor Ferrao to Sid-ben-Sliman.

(Traduction.)

(Compliments d'usage.)

LE 20 du mois de Septembre écoulé, son Excellence M. le Ministre d'Italie, alors Doyen du Corps Diplomatique, a adressé à votre Excellence une lettre au sujet du vœu exprimé par les Délégués de toutes les Puissances à la Conférence d'Algésiras relatif à l'esclavage au Maroc. Trois mois presque se sont passés, et comme aucune

réponse n'a été reçue, les Représentants des Puissances accrédités à Tanger me chargent de vous confirmer la lettre susmentionnée, et en même temps de vous prier, vu l'intérêt particulier que les Puissances prennent dans cette question, de bien vouloir nous donner une réponse que nous puissions tous communiquer à nos Gouvernements respectifs.

(Compliments d'usage.)

[43702] No. 264.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 31.)

(No. 250.)

Sir, *Tangier, December 20, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a translation of a letter received by the Dean of the Diplomatic Body from Sid Ben Sliman, informing him that the Sultan has given orders to put a stop to the sale into slavery of free-born children. In this letter Sid Ben Sliman refers to a letter on the subject from the former Dean of the Diplomatic Body. No such letter was, however, ever written from the Diplomatic Body to the Court, as the two letters in regard to slavery—written by the late Italian Minister, as doyen—adhered to the terms of the Declaration of Sir A. Nicolson at the Algeciras Conference, and did not refer to the sale of free-born children.

I further beg leave to inclose a translation of a letter to a similar effect addressed to me by Sid Ben Sliman. His Excellency is in error in referring to two letters addressed to him by me on this subject. I wrote to Sid Ben Sliman on the 9th May in regard to the sale of free-born children as slaves, and received satisfactory assurances in reply in a letter dated the 4th June, as reported in my despatches No. 82 of the 9th May and No. 112 of the 4th June; there was therefore no reason for my making a second representation on the subject.

It is difficult to explain the confusion that has arisen at the Shereefian Court in this matter, unless it is that, not wishing to give a reply that could be accepted as satisfactory to the letter of the doyen of the 22nd September, Sid Ben Sliman has hoped to avoid the difficulty by replying on a side issue.

In the meantime, however, as reported in my immediately preceding despatch, a further letter has been addressed to his Excellency pressing for a reply to the letter of the 22nd September.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 264.

Sid Ben Sliman to Dean of the Diplomatic Body.

(Translation.) *Le 23 Chaoual, 1324 (December 10, 1906).*

NOUS avions eu l'honneur de recevoir une réponse du doyen, votre illustre prédécesseur, relativement aux préjudices commis par des individus ignorants des mœurs vis-à-vis de Musulmans dans le traitement des esclaves en s'emparant d'enfants de gens libres et en les vendant dans les marchés d'une manière inadmissible. Dans la lettre susmentionnée du doyen, il exprime l'espoir qu'il sera mis fin à ce préjudice conformément à ce qui avait été ordonné dans le temps de feu notre Seigneur. Nous avons pris bonne note de la lettre susdite, que nous avons portée à la connaissance de Sa Majesté Chérifienne. Sa Majesté désapprouve le traitement de tout Musulman d'une manière qui porte atteinte aux principes de la religion Musulmane; il a, en conséquence, émis des ordres afin de faire des investigations sur les personnes qui s'adonnent à ces méfaits. En même temps Sa Majesté a donné des ordres sévères aux Gouverneurs des ports et d'autres afin de faire cesser ces préjudices conformément à ce qui avait été fait au temps de feu notre Seigneur et de punir les coupables, car notre Seigneur est le premier qui doit faire respecter l'honneur des Musulmans et le sauvegarder en tout temps.

(Signé) ABDELKRIM BEN SLIMAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 264.

Sid Ben Sliman to Mr. Lowther.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) *23 Showal, 1324 (December 10, 1906).*

I RECEIVED your two letters, informing me of the reports that have reached you of the taking of free Mohammedan children, male and female, by those who do not fear God, and of their being transported from one port to another of this country, and their being sold into slavery, and their being hawked about the streets of Tangier and other towns, to the scandal of Mohammedans and others. You express the hope that the Shereefian Government will take action to remove this evil. I took note of this, and informed His Shereefian Majesty thereof. His Majesty gave the matter serious attention, and instructed me to answer you that His Majesty would not approve of any one being allowed to continue to engage in this traffic. His Majesty had heard reports of this nature, and caused an inquiry to be made concerning those engaged in it, and the necessary orders have been issued to the officials at the ports and elsewhere to remove this evil, as was done in the reign of His late Majesty, our Lord the Sultan being the first to respect the rights of Mohammedans and most eager to safeguard them.

May you continue, &c.

(Signed) ABDELKRIM BEN SLIMAN.

[43703] No. 265.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 31.)

(No. 251.)

Sir, *Tangier, December 21, 1906.*

THE German Minister warned all German subjects yesterday that they should not leave the immediate neighbourhood of the town, or even go on to the beach, and explained that he considered the situation had now become dangerous owing to the action of the Corps Diplomatique in officially asking for the permanent removal ("éloignement définitif") of Raisuli.

No evidence has reached me pointing to a more dangerous condition of affairs during the last few days, and the Sultan's Mehalla is within a short distance of the town.

It seems a matter of regret that Dr. Rosen should have agreed with his colleagues in dispatching to Fez a note demanding the permanent removal ("éloignement définitif"), and at the same time lead German subjects to suppose that this action constitutes a danger.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[43704] No. 266.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 31.)

(No. 252. Confidential.)

Sir, *Tangier, December 23, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the British Consular Agent at Morocco City has had an interview with the Viceroy Moolai-el-Hafeed, during which they discussed the attitude of the tribes in the south towards the Sultan.

The Viceroy, in the course of the interview, stated his belief that if the Sultan proceeded to the south the tribes would rise against him. He admitted that the tribes have some little fear of His Majesty as long as he remains at Fez, but remarked that on his coming among them His Majesty's powerlessness would become obvious and this would embolden the tribes to revolt.

Mr. Lennox has never heard this opinion expressed by others at Morocco City, it being generally considered that if His Majesty would move out of Fez the whole south would welcome him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[43705] No. 267.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 31.)

(No. 253.)

Sir, *Tangier, December 23, 1906.*

THE Sultan's army, the dispatch of which from Fez I reported in my despatch No. 240 of the 11th instant, arrived on the 20th instant in this neighbourhood and camped within two hours of Tangier, and has remained there ever since awaiting uniforms and shoes, which were omitted from their equipment at Fez.

The part of the army which has arrived is composed of 3,000 infantry and 530 cavalry, 4 Maxim guns, and 2 powerful mountain guns.

Muley Absolom M'rani remains for the present at Alcazar, 50 miles from here, with a considerable force. The men, contrary to custom, have until now received regular pay. I believe, however, that none of them have ever been taught to shoot. The Chiefs of the hill tribes through which the army passed went to the camp and offered all assistance.

From confidential information which has reached me I understand that the Minister of War, Guebbas, who is in command, has stringent orders to capture Raisuli by fair means or foul, but to do so without incurring any risk to Europeans in Tangier; to make Tangier and the road all round safe, and also to protect Arzila and Laraiche, but to do nothing that would make it seem necessary for the French and Spanish to land troops at Tangier.

As is the custom, a letter was dispatched by Guebbas to Raisuli and the other tribes in this neighbourhood, calling upon them to send their contingent of men.

Raisuli and two other Kaïds replied that they declined to allow the establishment of the foreign police force, and would rather die than submit, and refused to send their contingents—an act of open rebellion. This appears to have induced Guebbas to believe that Raisuli had the neighbouring tribes with him, and it has been intimated to his Excellency that Raisuli can dispose of 15,000 to 20,000 men, an absurd idea, but one that seems to have filled the Commander with timidity.

It is, however, much to be feared that if the Commander does not take prompt and vigorous action Raisuli will gain adherents, for the bulk of the people who are now hesitating will eventually join the side they consider the stronger.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

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